Facility Advisory Committee Meeting
March 21, 2011

Present: Dan Cantliffe, Rebecca Darnell, Saba Rathinasabapathi, Chris Chase, Jim Olmstead, Danielle Treadwell, Kamin Miller

1. Kamin presented his efforts on the HS website, and pointed out areas that were still in development. The group agreed the completed areas were a great improvement, and D. Cantliffe recommended that Kamin increase his time on the development of the website in an effort to complete the site and launch it with new photos and text. 2. D. Cantliffe reviewed the budget updates by the FL legislators (expect cuts between 5% and 15%) and reminded the group that several biological scientist positions were unfilled but due to a hiring hiatus those positions were unable to filled. However, it was agreed that the positions be posted and advertised and that applicants be evaluated and interviews go forward so that when the hiring hiatus was lifted, we could fill the positions quickly.

3. D. Cantliffe reviewed the status of the UF-IFAS RECs - there are currently 5 interim center directors: Ft. Lauderdale, Apopka, Immokalee, Everglades and Lake Alfred.

4. The group reviewed the UF, Departmental, Faculty Sponsor, and Applicant roles in recommendations and requirements for completing various US Visa applications. The process is complicated, time consuming and expensive. It is the goal of the FAC to learn about the various procedures and provide some recommendations to be discussed by the faculty and Chair, with the objective of having a departmental policy to help all Departmental parties navigate this process with minimal complication and delay.