HAPC members present: Mark Settles, Kevin Folta, Xin Zhao, Rebecca Darnell

The committee discussed the undergraduate and graduate curriculum and revisions that are necessary in the face of instructor retirements and the need for revising/updating both undergraduate and graduate curricula to ensure comprehensive programs without redundancies. The consensus was to recommend the formation of two ad hoc committees, undergraduate and graduate, to lead the revisions. Suggested members of the undergraduate committee were Xin Zhao, Saba, Danielle Treadwell, and Curtis. Suggested members of the graduate committee were Chris Chase, Don Huber, and Jose Chaparro. Xin will contact the nominees for the undergraduate committee to determine if they are willing to serve. Other nominations and volunteers will be solicited at the next faculty meeting. Mark Settles has written the following charge for the committees:

Due to the recent and upcoming retirements of a significant number of teaching faculty, the Horticultural Sciences Academic Programs Committee (HAPC) recommends that the department revises both the undergraduate and graduate curricula. We suggest two ad hoc committees, undergraduate and graduate, be formed to lead the revisions.

Each committee will have the following tasks:

1) Identify the core knowledge that the faculty, students, and industry stakeholders regard as important for our graduates to be competitive.
2) Compare our current course offerings and content to what should be taught.
3) Determine how courses should be modified, merged, or dropped as well as new courses that should be developed to teach the core knowledge goals.
4) Develop a list of courses that should be within HS and courses that will available outside of the department.
5) Identify “best choice” faculty to teach the new course lists.

We suggest each committee have five members with faculty representing diverse specializations within Horticultural Sciences, such as molecular biology, genetics/breeding, crop production, and post-harvest.

The proposal and charge will be brought before the faculty at the next faculty meeting on March 14, 2011.

The teaching section of the departmental website was discussed and the committee agreed that photos, testimonials, and emphasis on careers are necessary parts of the section. Mark will contact John Pastor and Kevin will contact Tyler Jones to enquire about using their services as photographers.