

University of Washington
Department of Earth and Space Sciences
Meeting of Academic and Research Faculty in Open Session
Friday, February 11, 2011 – 2:30pm, 022 Johnson Hall

Department Chair Robert Winglee called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m.

Approval of Minutes of 12/3/10 Open Session minutes

The draft minutes were circulated for review and were approved as amended for time change.

Meeting synopsis:

1. Announcements
2. Reports and Business
3. New Business
4. Old Business
5. Adjournment

1. Announcements

- ESS Gala – was changed to March 30-31 in Johnson Hall. Information can be found at <https://sites.google.com/site/essgala2011/>
Gala representatives encouraged faculty to encourage the students to participate. They also asked for donations to support the Gala and reminded all that ESS pint glasses would be given to donors.
- Awards Ceremony – May 19, 2011
- MyGrad Access (Noell) - Noell Bernard handed out MyGrad forms to the faculty and asked they fill out the forms and return them to her. She noted faculty will need access for admissions procedures this year and next.
- Photo Board – Chair's Assistant Kelly Kumma announced that she has about half of the photos necessary to complete the new ESS photo board. She requested faculty with missing photos send her usable digital photos, or have one taken with the department camera.
- Chair Winglee announced that ESS Administrator Judi Gray would be leaving ESS for Undergraduate Affairs in Mary Gates Hall. She thanked Judi for her many years of service to ESS and wished her the best of luck in her new position.
- Friday Harbor Labs – Strategic Plan (Ken Sebens, Director) – Ken Sebens gave a presentation on the Friday Harbor Labs location. He explained that there are many ways ESS could use this property, both for classroom/research as well as for personal use when there is space available. He encouraged all ESS members to contact him for information about booking the property. Holzworth asked if ESS could put a lightning mast at that site for research purposes, and Sebens agreed that this would be within the scope of the nature of the facility.

2. Reports and Business

- *Undergraduate Program* – Nothing to report
- *Graduate Program* – Nothing to report

- *Admissions* – Cowan reported that ESS has admitted 21, and 1 of those has declined. We invited most of them to the open house. We have also been in touch with international students and are arranging travel for those candidates. There is one PCC fellowship to award as well as two ARCS fellowships. The open house is in two weeks. Cowan reported that Noell and Nathan from Student Services will be arranging meetings with research groups and grad students. Additionally there will be a 2nd more informal open house in March. Contact Noell Bernard for a list of confirmed students. Creager added that ARCS allows for two student submissions and encouraged faculty to contact him with questions on that process.
- *Computing* – nothing to report.
- *Curriculum* –
 - Brown reported that the idea of an integrated science program was discussed three years ago, however was tabled for budget concerns. This discussion has been brought back to life and the committee will submit a slightly modified proposal soon. The main concern is adding more students to the 200 level classes that are already full. Crider pointed out the alternative is 210. Brown has proposed that and this option is being considered.
 - Brown reported that the new buzz-word in environmental studies is “environmental literacy” which was a hot topic when the COEV was set up. – buzz words in setting up the college of environment. He noted that there will be some word-smithing done at the UW level to make it a UW version. Warren notes that the current definition does not include the natural world and currently only addresses “environmental problems.” Winglee agreed and does not want the focus to be only on environmental problems. He asks curriculum committee to represent ESS and them to bring to the forefront that the natural world is important.
 - Brown reported on graduate curriculum – graduate students were polled on breadth courses and disciplinary courses. Responses were mixed. Students are generally happy to have the courses, but have offered some suggestions. Brown would like faculty teaching the breadth courses to get together and discuss some new options. Winglee suggests rotating teaching faculty in order to offer some variations. Huntington suggested combining forces to change things up a bit rather than adding a whole new course. Faculty generally agreed and decided those teaching breadth courses would meet and explore options.
- *Development* – Winglee reported that the Mindlin lecture was just held and was a huge success. There was a full house of 450 attendees, including the President and the Dean. Faculty discussed bringing in a new Mindlin lecturer for the upcoming year and that the budget for this was around \$4k.
- *Oversight* – Nothing to report
- *Prelim Committee* – Nothing to report.
- *Promotion, Reappointment and Merit* – Nothing to report.
- *Scholarships, Fellowships and Awards* – Nothing to report.

3. New Business

- Winglee announced that Mike Harrell is available for anyone with class labs to get organized. If faculty have inventory stored at Sandpoint they need to sort it and eliminate as best you can so that the department can move inventory from Johnson Hall to the Sandpoint location. The department will pay for a dumpster and Winglee urged faculty to do some spring cleaning.

4. Old business

- Budget cuts: looking at \$5 billion and the units are possibly taking double digits cuts. The University will probably balance it with a double digit increase in tuition. Statement from ESS is that we cannot take 10% cut. 80% is in faculty salaries. 7% is PNSN. 13% is staff and TA. Discussions are continuing at 5% and 10% cut scenarios. ESS refusing to provide 10% scenario. He advised everyone to be prepared to adapt. He reminded faculty to come to him ASAP for TA funding support numbers.
- 10-Year-Report: 10-year review was postponed due to bad weather the outside evaluators could not travel to Seattle. They might reschedule for 1st week of spring quarter. Winglee suggested to groups that they keep working and to use the time wisely.

5. Adjournment

The open session adjourned to the Executive Session at 4:36 p.m.

Minutes by Kelly Kumma
Assistant to the Chair
Kumma@uw.edu

Present:

Faculty: Bachmann, Bandfield, Bodin, Booker, Bourgeois, Brown, Catling, Cowan, Creager, Crider, Gillespie, Gorman-Lewis, Hallet, Hansen, Harnett, Holzworth, Houston, Huntington, McCarthy, Mercer, Montgomery, Nelson, Nesbitt, Nittrouer, Odom, Roe, Swanson, Steig, Stone, Swanson, Waddington, Ward, Winebrenner, Winglee (Chair), Wood

Staff: Bernard, Kumma

Students: Argento