

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

Department Chair Robert Winglee called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes of 02/11/11 Open Session minutes**

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

**Meeting synopsis:**

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

**1. Announcements**

- ESS – Gala – still need donations
- Call for commencement speaker, if anyone has a suggestion they should pass it along to Robert
- 10 Year Review – will be May 23-24
- QRC Hiring – Steig announced that the QRC has some funding and will be looking to hire two new positions, including one possibly being ESS. They are still forming the offerings and will give an update when possible. Other departments are also looking into funding the QRC.

**2. Reports and Business**

- *Undergraduate Program* – Nothing to report
- *Graduate Program* – Nothing to report
- *Admissions* – Cowan reported that there are 21 outstanding offers, 4 declines, and 1 has accepted. The committee will start making award offers Wednesday. Cowan encouraged faculty to contact him if they have
- *Computing* – Bodin reported that ESS computing will be investigated due to how efficient we are and possibly an example for the college.
- *Curriculum* – Bergantz reported that prelim exam review was making progress and that the committee intends to review breadth courses. If anyone is interested in teaching breadth courses they should contact the curriculum committee. The committee will also be reviewing the B.S. options and required courses to the requirements are fulfilling the teaching goals.
- *Development* - Nothing to report
- *Oversight* – Nothing to report. Nathan Briley will be sending an email soon concerning faculty activity.
- *Scholarship* – Bergantz reported that the call for scholarships has gone out
- *Prelim Committee* – Nothing to report

- *Promotion, Reappointment, and Merit* – Nothing to report

### **3. Old Business**

- Professional Master's Program – The search committee has 4 applications. Tim Abbe has already been brought on for Fluvial, Steve Walters will be developing a GIS program. The department is working with CEE in course development. It was pointed out they are going to start also reporting to the College of the Environment and asked what effect this may have. They were doing this regardless of the program, and the effect is unknown. The goal is potentially having more students take intro geology courses so that the courses can focus on more upper geology.
- Budget Cuts – The numbers in the media are only hypothetical at this point, as are named cuts such as PNSN and Arboretum. The PNSN is being moved out of the department as a fixed cost. This leaves less of a pool for cuts, as well as creates a more accurate count of faculty FTE. We are also currently down two staff positions, with Judi and Kelly gone. Nathan Briley is covering Kelly's duties, and Robert hopes to make an offer for an Administrator next week.

### **4. New Business**

- Lounge Issues – JHN 165 has been updated as a lounge and as such should no longer be used for regular meetings or classes. JHN 241, ATG 154, and the Chair's Conference room are all alternatives and the lounge should be used as a last resort.
- TA Usage/Enrollments – TA's need to work 20 hours or less a week. We are currently seeing record enrollments in our core classes. It is very likely the TA budget will be cut, so faculty need to be thinking about how to reach more efficiently (time wise) or what needs to be dropped. The department also needs to think about where it is going. Many science departments are closing their doors, leading to our surge. We can either close as well, or rethink how we teach. Activity based budgeting is going to 60:40 from 80:20 (declared/teach). Possible solutions to the over enrollment are institution minimum requirements for the major or restricting classes to majors. Core classes should meet with the curriculum committee to discuss efficiencies or what should be cut. A request for the actual formula determining how the TA fund will be allocated was made.
- Field camp - currently has more interest than it can possibly do. Options include having two field camps which would need another faculty person to lead, or alternatives to field camp such as research experience or lab experience.
- Chair Search Committee – is being formed.
- Strategic Plan – needs to be current in case an opportunity presents itself. It should also be updated if possible with the 10 year review in a couple of months. If someone has a change they would like made they should send it to Robert. Might need to address the current situation of over enrollment.

### **5. Adjournment**

The open session adjourned to the Executive Session at 4:05.

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Minutes by Nathan Briley  
Program Coordinator  
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Present:

Faculty: Abramson, Bachmann, Bergantz, Bodin, Booker, Buick, Conway,  
Cowan, Creager, Crider, Gillespie, Gomberg, Gorman-Lewis, Hallet, Holzworth,  
Houston, Huntington, Montgomery, Nesbitt, Nittrouer, Odom, Sletten, Steig, Stone,  
Swanson, Vidale, Waddington, Winebrenner, Winglee

Staff: Bernard, Briley, Kumma

Students: Argento, Huybers