

**University of Washington**  
**Department of Earth and Space Sciences**  
**Meeting of Academic and Research Faculty in Open Session**  
**Friday, April 1, 2011 – 2:30pm, 111 Johnson Hall**

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

**Approval of Minutes of 03/11/11 Open Session minutes**

The draft minutes were circulated for review and were approved.

**Meeting synopsis:**

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

**1. Announcements**

- This year's commencement speakers will be Joe Dufek and Carol Paty.
- Faculty Annual Reports are due April 30<sup>th</sup>, a reminder will be sent out.
- New Administrator: Michele Conrad will start April 11<sup>th</sup>. She is coming to us from Sociology. Sociology is about the same size as ESS with less research grants.
- Photos of stuff at Sandpoint will be online soon. Claim your stuff or it will be thrown out.

- Newsletter is coming out soon. If you have a story to share, please send it to chair@ess.washington.edu . Pictures are welcomed.
- The Gala was a success and pictures are currently on our website. If you have a student who participated encourage them to submit a slide as well.

## 2. Reports and Business

- *Undergraduate Program* – Nothing to report
- *Graduate Program* – Creager reported many graduate students still need to have their forms turned in. An email will go out notifying those who still need to get them turned in.
- *Admissions* – Cowan reported that 29 offers had been made, 12 declined, 3 accepted and 14 are outstanding. 1 ARCS, 1 GO-MAP, 3 Top Scholars, and 1 PCC Fellowship had been offered. Winglee requested that if one of your students has a pending award and has not made a decision to please try to figure out where they stand so we can reallocate the funds if needed.
- *Computing* – Harnett reported that Ed is busy setting up a new Moodle and that 366 is undergoing some changes to make webcasts possible, and Winglee reported that it will also be convertible from computer lab to classroom and back.
- *Curriculum* – Nothing to report. Cowan asked what the committee plans on doing about record demand for field camp. He has proposed for this year to prioritize it based on who needs it to graduate this year or next June. Also promoted alternatives, such as lab experience. Houston suggested possible other programs being advertised. Winglee pointed out that ESS 594 will need an instructor for the incoming graduate students and that the committee should suggest someone.
- *Development* - Getting a steady stream of donations. There is a new Mindlin speaker, Paul Hoffman. He is doing snowball earth seminars, and will give an ESS seminar prior to his Autumn public lecture.
- *Oversight* – Nothing to report.
- *Scholarship* – Buick reported that the call has gone out and that students will be asking for letters of reference, and asked that people please write them.
- *Prelim Committee* – Nothing to report
- *Promotion, Reappointment, and Merit* – Winglee requested that Faculty Activity Reports be submitted on time, especially if you wish to be considered for a promotion.

### 3. Old Business

- None

### 4. New Business

- Vidale reported PNSN took over the Eastern Washington Seismic Stations. They anticipate this bringing in \$300 - \$400 thousand, but do not know how much the manpower will cost.
- Vidale also reported that they are pushing the early earthquake warning system, which gave a couple minutes notice in the Japan earthquake. It is estimated that it would cost \$300 million over the next 10 years to outfit the west coast, but whether this will actually occur is anyone's guess.
- Holzworth notified those present that an update on the Atmospheric Electrodynamics Position will be presented in the executive session.
- Winglee briefed about Swanson's text proposal. He is asking for help in contributing to an ESS 101 text in place of the current book. Textbook costs have been on the rise, and if instructors can move to public domain or online resources, this could help alleviate some of the student burden. Swanson had informed Winglee that when he made the textbook optional he saw enrollment jump 50 students.

### 5. Adjournment

The open session adjourned to the Executive Session at 3:15.

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Minutes by Nathan Briley

Program Coordinator

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Present:

Faculty: Bachmann, Bandfield, Brown, Buick, Catling, Cowan, Creager, Crider, Gillespie, Gomberg, Gorman-Lewis, Hansen, Harnett, Holzworth, Houston, Huntington,

McCarthy, Montgomery, Nelson, Nesbitt, Prager, Roe, Sletten, Steig, Stone, Swanson,  
Vidale, Winglee, Wood

Staff: Bernard, Briley