

University of Washington
Department of Earth and Space Sciences
Meeting of Academic and Research Faculty in Open Session
Friday, October 5th, 2012 – 2:30pm, 175 Johnson Hall

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

Approval of Minutes of 04/13/12 Open Session minutes

The draft minutes were circulated for review and were approved.

Meeting synopsis:

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

1. Announcements

- Winglee called for faculty to attend the ExxonMobil recruiting dinner.
- Winglee asked for some volunteers for the 3rd and 4th floor wardens. Dave McDougal will be in contact in the near future to finalize the EEOP.
- The departmental newsletter went out, and Winglee thanked people for their contributions.
- ExComm needs nominations by the end of the day for the open position.
- Winglee did the annual call for donations to the Friends of ESS fund. This fund supports many departmental events including open house, orientation, and the Gala.
- Winglee announced ESS 211 has reached record numbers, and we should expect a large surge through the other 200 & 300 core courses. Winglee also let the faculty know that the department is willing to provide resources to assist in making courses more efficient to effectively handle larger class sizes.

2. Reports and Business

- *Admissions* – Nothing to report
- *Curriculum* – Brown presented on the “Flipping the Classroom” initiative. The goal is to have students watch the more non-interactive portions (ie lectures) before class, then have more time for interactive portions. Lectures are presented via video and interactive quizzes, and lecture time is devoted to demos of key concepts and labs are used for practical experience. There is some concern regarding copyrights that will be looked into, and Brown encouraged all faculty to make sure they brand the lectures with the department/personal info. Winglee and Crider talked about the licensing information that was sent out. The results are a bit surprising, but do not include our students going

into graduate school, and are not particularly representative of our department as we are not a formal geology department.

- *Undergraduate Program* – Roe announced that the work to improve the BA is continuing, and plans to present a breakdown of grades at the next faculty meeting.
- *Graduate Program* – Creager reminded the faculty that their students should be forming committees shortly after the prelim exams, and that they should expect to hold general exams after the 3rd year.
- *Development* - Nothing to report
- *Oversight* – Nothing to report
- *Computing* – Nothing to report
- *Scholarship* – Nothing to report
- *Prelim Committee* – Nothing to report
- *Promotion, Reappointment, and Merit* – Reporting in Executive Session.
- *Scholarships, Fellowships, and Awards* – Nothing to report

3. New Business

- The Freshwater Initiative is getting off the ground, has planned funding from multiple sources, and is working on narrowing down on search areas and positions.
- The Ice Initiative is the highest priority and is set for next academic year.
- The NSF Hazards Proposal needs a lead faculty member and participants, and should be ~\$3 million over 4 years. Faculty interested in participating should contact Winglee.
- A committee consisting of Bergantz, Nelson, and Stone was established to look at the cost and usage of the MicroProbe and to make recommendations on how it should continue to operate.
- Space is a growing concern. We are currently at 95% capacity, and any faculty with dry labs should consider moving or hosting graduate student and visitors in their labs.
Stone requested assistance in cleaning up and creating a purpose for JHN 422.
Winglee has asked Harrell to clean up the prep areas in general to make them more usable.

4. Old Business

- Winglee updated the faculty on the status of the budget. State support remained flat and our ABB revenue was taxes at 50% by the College. On the positive side, temporary TA funds were converted into permanent funding, and we received a net increase of \$33k. Winglee will continue to protest the tax amount.
- The Glaciology Search Committee will make their report in the Executive Session.

5. Adjournment

The open session adjourned to the Executive Session at 4:30.

Minutes by Nathan Briley
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Present:

Faculty: Abramson, Bandfield, Bergantz, Bodin, Brown, Catling, Cowan,
Creager, Crider, Duvall, Gillespie, Hansen, Holzworth, Houston, Huntington,
Montgomery, Nesbitt, Roe, Stone, Vidale, Waddington, Winebrenner, Winglee
(Chair), Wood Students: Allstadt, Campbell, Harrold

Staff: Briley, Conrad, Mullingan

Guests: Bust, Steele