

University of Washington
Department of Earth and Space Sciences
Meeting of Academic and Research Faculty in Open Session
Friday, June 7th, 2013 – 3:30pm, 111 Johnson Hall

Department Chair Robert Winglee called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes of 05/03/13 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 requested volunteers to usher at graduation.
- Conrad alerted the faculty that she is conducting lab surveys for indirect cost calculation
- Winglee reminded faculty that the Spring BBQ will be following the faculty meeting and Graduation is on June 15th.

2. Reports and Business

- *Admissions* (Buick/Crider) – Nothing to report
- *Curriculum* (Waddington) – Waddington presented an overview of the current process of evaluation for the research program (prelim -> general -> final) and what the goals are for graduate students. He stressed the need for faculty and students to be fully informed on this process in order to be successful. Specific concerns include:
 - i. *Prelim Exam* - there is a tension between getting students into existing research quickly vs getting them to develop their own research. Should we prefer one over the other for first year students?
 - ii. *General Exam* – Should this be a test of general knowledge or a PhD proposal?
- *Undergraduate Program* (Roe) – Winglee reported that misconduct is on the rise and is looking for ways to discourage it. Some suggestions are stop using mailboxes for assignments (lockboxes were installed as an alternative), don't leave assignments on departmental computers at the end of the quarter, and providing more resources for instructors to educate their students.
- *Graduate Program* (Creager) – Duvall presented the proposed program and exams guidelines. They were discussed and passed unanimously by the faculty.

- *Development* - Winglee announced that Erik Oswald is visiting and is interested in ESS and Arctic Ice if any faculty are interested in meeting with him.
- *Computing* (Harnett) – Nothing to report
- *Scholarship* – Nothing to report
- *Prelim Committee* (Holzworth) – Nothing to report
- *Promotion, Reappointment, and Merit* – Nothing to report.
- *Scholarships, Fellowships, and Awards* – Nothing to report

3. New Business

- Winglee announced that updated policies have been circulated and at the faculty's request the Acting Chair policy will be posted for voting (update: passed unanimously 7/8/13)
- Steig presented on a paleoclimate modeling research position. Need is growing, it would have low startup costs, and would be open to long term modeling. The faculty approved pursuing this unanimously.
- Winglee updated the faculty on the proposed Space Technology MS. Office space was previously identified as a concern but it should be manageable with our current resources. It would run at regular hours and provide hands on experience with a flyable product in space. Winglee has been meeting with industry leaders to ensure there is demand for this kind of program and there seems to be. There would be a goal of a class size of 20 and the program would help stabilize the space and planetary groups and help establish synergistic ties with industry partners. The faculty voted unanimously to continue pursuing this with an update before submission to the graduate school.

4. Old Business

- Nothing to report.

5. Adjournment

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

Minutes by Nathan Briley
 Assistant to the Chair
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Present:

Faculty: Abramson, Bergantz, Bourgeois, Brown, Buick, Catling, Creager, Duvall, Gorman-Lewis, Hallet, Hernandez, Holzworth, Houston, Huntington, Montgomery, Nelson, Nittrouer, Odom, Roe, Schmidt, Sletten, Stone, Teng, Vidale, Waddington, Warren, Winglee, Wood
 Staff, Students, and Guests: Briley, Conrad