

University of Washington
Department of Earth and Space Sciences
Meeting of Academic and Research Faculty in Open Session
Friday, October 4th, 2013 – 3:00pm, 026 Johnson Hall

Department Chair Robert Winglee called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes of 06/07/13 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

- ExxonMobil is recruiting this week
- Nathan Briley has transitioned to the Computer Support Team
- Graduate ASE pay has increased, an email with the specifics was sent out to the faculty
- Faculty pay also increased
- Winglee circulated signup sheets for faculty to volunteer for committees
- Winglee called on the faculty to send in more photos/updated photos for the directory and photoboard and encouraged them to remind their students as well
- Holzworth requested faculty send him names if they had ideas for Winter seminar speakers or if they were interested in running a Mindlin series
- A celebration of Gary Hansen's life is being planned and Winglee will forward any announcements that he receives regarding it.

2. Reports and Business

- *Admissions* (Buick/Crider) – Nothing to report
- *Curriculum* (Waddington) – Winglee asked the faculty to support filming of all course labs (setups and goals) as it is very difficult currently to rotate in new instructors due to lack of documentation. It is also hard for new TA's to come in cold to a class, especially classes with no returning TA's. This would be mandatory by Winter 2015 and its first priority is to be used as a resource for instructional TA's (rather than distance learning)
- *Undergraduate Program* (Roe) – Preliminary numbers are showing 155 majors, near record enrollment in ESS 211, and Winglee announced we should expect another wave in 300 core classes next year comparable to this year's enrollments.
- *Graduate Program* (Creager) – Nothing to report

- *Development* – Winglee did an annual call for donations to Friends of ESS which is used to support many student focused events including open house, awards, and graduation. Also the UWCFD is starting soon. Winglee also announced that the Danner estate donated ~\$20k for mapping in WA state and that if someone(s) wish to supplement it to \$25k it can become a permanent endowment. Cowan announced that an anonymous donor has proved a GSA room for the conference; an invitation will be sent out to alumni and current students/faculty announcing its availability
- *Computing* (Harnett) – There is now a video cart available for easy recording, can be run solo, and students are responding positively to recorded lectures.
- *Scholarship* – Nothing to report
- *Prelim Committee* (Brown / Cowen) – Reporting in Executive Session
- *Promotion, Reappointment, and Merit* – Nothing to report.
- *Scholarships, Fellowships, and Awards* – Nothing to report

3. New Business

- Geoclub is planning a Spring Break trip and will need a faculty sponsor, location still TBA.
- Brown presented on Learning Technologies. He attended trainings on incorporating technology in classrooms and intends to be a resource for faculty in classroom technology issues. UW's Canvas is going to be the future and in recent years there has been much more standardization, Canvas is already incorporating many UW services including gradebook, and is intended to be a centralized platform for courses. Winglee asked the faculty to vote to collectively move forward with Canvas as our standard platform but allowing faculty to opt out if they need to. The vote passed (19 Yes, 1 No, 5 Abstain).
- Winglee announced that Dean Oyun from Mongolian University of Science and Technology is visiting next week and is interested in exchanges of students and possible field camps in Mongolia. Any faculty interested in meeting with Dean Oyun should contact Winglee.
- Nitrouer brought up concerns with the ineffectiveness and inefficiency of using smaller vans for large course field trips. Previous actions concerning the push to keep 12 person vans were discussed and it was decided the best way moving forward was to drop the fight to bring back 12 person vans and rather work with Fleet Services to make using current vehicles more efficient (not tracking down all over campus, not empty, equipment failures before departure, etc).
- Winglee presented on the state of the budget, namely that 3 retentions burned through a possible faculty line but the department did receive \$80k for TA support, \$20k for staff support

4. Old Business

- Schmidt updated the faculty on Oceanography's Subduction Search. It stalled a bit over Summer due to fieldwork but is picking back up soon.

- Steig updated the faculty on the Future of Ice initiative. 3 positions were approved by the Provost, 1 is ESS, the other two will be split 1/3:2/3. We are currently waiting on approval from the College, but in the meantime a committee for the ESS specific position was formed (Waddington [Chair], Conway, Steig, Vidale, Koutnik) and for the Future of Ice initiative (Steig [chair], Waddington, Hallet, Koutnik). A grad rep will be assigned in the near future.

5. Adjournment

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

Minutes by Nathan Briley

Assistant to the Chair

essasst@uw.edu

Present:

Faculty: Abramson, Bourgeois, Brown, Buick, Catling, Conway, Cowan, Creager, Crider, Duvall, Gorman-Lewis, Hallet, Harnett, Holzworth, Huntington, Montgomery, Nelson, Nesbitt, Nittrouer, Odom, Roe, Schmidt, Steig, Stone, Teng, Vidale, Waddington, Winebrenner, Winglee (Chair)

Staff, Students, and Guests: Briley, Buskirk, Conrad, Gauglitz, Ploskey