

Department of Earth and Space Sciences  
Meeting of the Faculty  
Friday, September 29, 2017  
JHN 175 ~ 2:30 p.m.

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MINUTES

**Call to Order - Meeting of the Faculty in Open Session**

Department Chair Bruce Nelson called the meeting to order at 2:37pm.

**1. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

- The **June 2, 2017** Faculty Meeting Minutes were circulated and approved.

**2. Announcements**

- Good News Items:
  - This summer **John Booker was awarded the AGU's Gilbert Award**. "Honor is given by the AGU's Geomagnetism, Paleomagnetism and Electromagnetism section and presented annually to one honoree in recognition of outstanding work in magnetism of Earth materials and of the Earth and planets."
  - **ESS is organizing this year's GSA meeting – Cowan and Gillespie** are chairs. Submitted papers hit a new GSA record (4950, probably over 5K) which will like translate to >7500 attendees. ESS is taking advantage holding a **special alumni reunion on Monday (Oct 23) at the Touchdown Terrace in Husky Stadium**. It will include a presentation honoring the career of Steve Porter. Organized by Jody Bourgeois and Ben Fitzhugh.
  - Over the summer the **Shanghai Academic Ranking of World Universities ranked UW Earth Sciences 8<sup>th</sup> in the world**. Their definition of Earth Sciences is not completely clear. It does not exactly map on to our department, but it does not include all activity by ATMO and little by OCN. Best way to look at it is that the Earth Sciences as an overarching discipline is very strong at UW.
  - **Advancement & Donor Relations:** The UW fiscal year ended on July 31<sup>st</sup>. This is a good time to do year-over-year comparisons. Donor news for last year compared to the previous fiscal year: Overall donations have nearly doubled, thanks in part to two large foundation grants and two major individual donations. In the range of personal annual gifts (<\$25k) the number of donors was constant but the overall amount donated increased by about 50%. Excellent progress all around, and we should thank the Advancement Staff for their efforts. In new donor news, we are raising funds for undergraduate immersive experience outside of the classroom, with emphasis on access, and this has started to get some donor traction.
  - We have reached agreement with both **TJ Fudge** and **Jon Toner** to join our faculty as Research Assistant Professors. They officially start in October.
- **Faculty Sabbatical** (PPL – Paid Personal Leave) requests for 2018-19 are due November 15 to the Chair. Request **MUST** include teaching coverage plan.
- **Darrel Cowan** has announced his retirement effective August 31, 2017.
  - He has been with the department 42 academic years, teaching in the core every year, and probably having taught field camp 35 times. He has innumerable service activities local and national (chair GEO), and recently received a career achievement award from GSA. He will continue teaching one course per year.
- Statistics on the number of **visitors and postdocs** currently in the department:
  - 7-10 visiting international students, both graduate and undergraduate
  - 11+ visiting scholars/visiting scientists
  - 10 new postdoctoral researchers

- Let's take advantage of the vibrant community this creates!
- Annual **Great Washington ShakeOut** will be held at 10:19am on October 19. Email has been sent out separately from Bill Steele. Please participate with your classes.
- The **ESS prospective grad student open house** will be Wednesday-Friday, February 21-23. The dinner will be held Wednesday night at the UW Club.
- Faculty with hourly workers must make sure that hours submitted by those hourlies are assigned to the correct cost center (budget).
- The University has announced the candidates for **Provost** and is scheduling their interviews with the campus community. Email has been sent regarding this.
- **Lauren Wood** has resigned her position at the front desk and has moved on to a position with a local non-profit. We wish her the best. We will be hiring a replacement but this may take a few months. In the meantime we have 2 part time work-study students helping the front office and student services.
- **Workday Issues:**
  - Consistent policy across the College due to Workday challenges:
  - Currently, we are working with a hiring timeline of up to one month for student and temporary hourly employee hires, and three months for a permanent employee hire. We are not able to guarantee that your employee will be hired in a timely manner if the appropriate notice times are not respected.
  - Kathy and Sue have received multiple requests (this week!) for student appointments effective 9/16 or 10/1. Please note that it may take up to one month for these requests to be completely processed.
  - Please be aware of the heavy workload for ALL front office employees and student services, due both to covering Lauren's duties as well as the additional workload imposed by WorkDay.
  - Due to this heavy workload and out of courtesy to the staff, whenever possible, please set-up a mutually convenient time to meet with them. Unfortunately support can no longer be guaranteed on a walk-in basis. If an employee's door is closed please respect their privacy and send an email to schedule a time to meet. They are likely working on critical matters that demand immediate attention.
  - We have an amazing staff who are coping with dreadful working conditions. Please be not only professional and courteous, but please express your support to them also. They're doing their best with a bad situation.

### 3. Reports and Business

- **Curriculum** (Teng) – Nothing to report.
- **Undergraduate Program** (Roe) – Nothing to report.
- **Graduate Program** (Creager) – George Bergantz will take over TA assignments beginning with Winter Quarter, with the assistance of Ken Creager as he transitions into this task.s

### 4. Standing Committees

- **Admissions** (Buick) – Nothing to report.
- **Computing** – Speaker upgrades are nearly complete in all ESS-controlled classrooms.
- **MESSAGE** (Crider) – 14 Oral Comprehensive Exams were successfully completed.
- **Oversight** (Bergantz/McCarthy) – Nothing to report.
- **Prelim** (Gorman-Lewis/Stone) – will discuss in executive session.
- **Promotion, Reappointment & Merit** (Holzworth/Waddington) – Nothing to report.

- **Scholarships, Fellowships, and Awards** (Stone) – Nothing to report.
- **College Council Representation** (Bergantz) – Nothing to report.

5. **Old Business**

6. **New Business**

7. **Adjourn to Executive Session:** 3:21pm.

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Minutes by Scott Dakins

Attendees: Faculty – Bergantz, Brown, Conway, Creager, Crider, Duvall, Gorman-Lewis, Hallet, Holzworth, Huntington, Koutnik, Licht, McCarthy, Nelson, Nittrouer, Roe, Steig, Swanson, Waddington, Walters, Winebrenner, Winglee.

Staff, Students, and Guests – Bernard-Kinglsey, Dakins, Gomberg, Kelson, Koehler, Northway, Reusch, Steele