

ESF College-Wide Faculty Meeting
3:30 PM, Wednesday, March 23, 2011
408 Baker Hall

Attending: **Adir Ecological Center:** any remote attendees? **Chemistry:** Neal Abrams; Gregory Boyer; Avik Chatterjee; Kelley Donaghy; David Kieber; Huiting Mao; Mark Teece; William Winter. **Cons Mgmt & Wood Pro Eng:** Paul Crovella; Robert Meyer; Kenneth Tiss. **Env Res and For Eng:** Douglas Daley; Lindi Quackenbush **Env Science:** Russell Briggs (FNRM). **Env Studies:** Valerie Luzadis (FNRM); Jack Manno **Environ & Forest Bio:** John Castello; Jonathan Cohen; Melissa Fierke; Elizabeth Folta; Jacqueline Frair **Forest & Natural Res. Mgmt:** Peter Black; Ruth Yanai. **Forest Tech Prog:** any remote attendees? **President/VPs/Gov Relations:** Bruce Bongarten **Info Technology:** were Christopher Baycura and Ross Jacobs there? I ran into them right after they removed their equipment? **Landscape Architecture:** none. **Moon Library:** Jo Anne Ellis; James Williamson **Outreach:** none. **Paper/Bioprocess Engineering:** Klaus Dölle; Gary Scott **Research Programs:** Neil Ringler **Student Representatives:** Lewis Grove (GSA)

The meeting was called to order at 3:34 by Kelley Donaghy.

I. **Minutes from 2/10/11** were approved as distributed.

II. **Committee Reports**

A. **Committee on Research** (Frair)

For the Spotlight on Student Research we have received 87 grad posters and 31 undergrad poster submissions, which is only 8 over our quote so we will make room for all this year than turning down posters. This is quite a bit fewer than submitted last year. The graduate student association is working with Tim Volk to judge the posters and provide awards for grad students again as well as undergrads, and will be soliciting faculty judges soon, please help if you can. The Spotlight event is scheduled for Tuesday, 12 April 2011, 12-2 pm in Nifkin Lounge.

We have received and are currently reviewing 17 seed grant proposals. With a \$30K budget and an average proposal value of \$7300, we anticipate awarding 3-4 grants. Notifications will be sent out within the next two weeks.

We are working on language for a policy related to the formal requirement for all NSF submissions to specify a data management plan. Please let us if you have any experience with successful data management plans through NSF proposals, or specifics to the kind of data we have here and its long-term management.

B. **Committee on Awards** (Manno)

One of our responsibilities is to prepare a list of candidates for honorary degrees. The nomination process is not public, because the person can't know that they are getting the degree. The criteria include an exemplary career, some tie to ESF, and that the individual not have an honorary degree from any SUNY institution. Please send suggestions to me or to other members of the committee.

III. **Research Office Update: Technology Transfer**

Neil Ringler introduced Patrick McCloskey, SUNY Research Foundation, Technology Transfer Office.

About a year ago, Pat joined our campus, representing the SUNY Research Foundation, which has responsibility for our intellectual property and manages the process of reaching out to industry for commercialization of our products. We have policies to address these relationships, written by faculty in the mid 1990s; they leave a lot of latitude for interpretation.

We're interested in four types of intellectual property: patents, copyright, trade secrets, and trademarks. Patents and copyright are less distinct since the advent of computers. Patents give you the right to prevent someone else from using your idea; copyright used to apply only to printed matter. The Research Foundation, the college and the individual each get a cut of royalties and patents.

What is not intellectual property? Not every idea is patentable. You need to show how to make and use your invention.

What is public disclosure? When you apply for a grant, the grant is confidential. When it is funded, it's public (FIA). So you need to talk to me before it gets to that point. Industry partners will want to have a confidentiality agreement. This is not an issue if you've already filed your patent.

We're hoping for an industry partner to pay for the costs of patenting. You, the inventor, are the best person to market your invention. I'll do my best to help.

The patent process is fairly linear (2-10 years, more expensive if it goes back and forth, averaging \$35K). Commercialization process is not so linear.

Pure and basic research are not necessarily opposed. Pasteur operated in the realm of both applied and basic research; some research is purely applied (Edison), some is purely basic (Watson & Crick). Donald Stokes (1997) introduced the term Pasteur's Quadrant to describe use-inspired basic research.

Identify industry partners early on. This can help your students and help the industry partners, too. Recognize opportunities, you will have access to a technology acquisition fund, \$50K per program.

Highest potential projects: Are they scalable? Do you have an internal champion in industry? Is nobody else even close? Any high unmet medical need is worth pursuing. This should translate into more industry-sponsored research.

Pursue your idea. Get your students on it, get your partners, don't get discouraged. You may license your idea or you may sell it. You can form a startup; SUNY is very supportive of that. There is a loose mentoring network for startups. There are workshops on how to be a CEO and on how to raise money for your startup.

I'm here in Syracuse every other week; I also work with some Institutes in NYC. You can contact me through Neil or Cheryl.

Neil: SUNY is treating inventors very well, including providing us with Pat.

IV. Old Business

A. Course Surveys (Donaghy for Covella)

We wanted to show you the interface, but it isn't working yet. Expect the following improvements:

1. Instructor Control of opening and closing dates
2. Courses without lab will no longer have the lab questions
3. Results will be available in a spreadsheet

Still to come:

Individualized questions

Overview of entire instrument

Thanks to Dave Soderberg for making this work and helping us achieve all these goals--also for helping us with the bylaws votes.

B. Bylaws (Donaghy)

All the amendments passed, as follows.

AMENDMENT #1 PASSED 3/17/2011 - (yea 47 - nay 3 - abstain 1)

Summary: This amendment will remove the waiting period for instructors, assistant librarians and research assistants. It brings the definition of voting faculty in line with the SUNY Board of Trustees Policies.

AMENDMENT #2 PASSED 3/17/2011 - (yea 41 - nay 10 - abstain 0)

Summary: This amendment clarifies the Sergeant-at-Arms duty and changes the number of faculty needed to establish a quorum.

We have a quorum here today!

AMENDMENT #3 PASSED 3/17/2011 - (yea 40 - nay 11 - abstain 0)

Summary: This amendment moves the population of the standing committees to the departmental level instead of a college-wide election system. Additionally, members of the college administrative staff will also be formally acknowledged and provide representatives to the committees.

AMENDMENT #4 PASSED 3/17/2011 - (yea 47 - nay 4 - abstain 0)

Summary: This amendment describes the election of officers to the Executive Committee and provides a pathway for populating committee chairs in the absence of a decision in the College-wide elections. NOTE: Adjustments to this amendment will be made based on the outcome of the vote on the amendments establishing committees. The only adjustments will be the names of the committees listed.

AMENDMENT #5 PASSED 3/17/2011 - (yea 47 - nay 4 - abstain 0)

Summary: This amendment changes the number of standing committees but is dependent on the outcome of the amendments splitting and forming new committees. NOTE: Adjustments to this amendment will be made based on the outcome of the vote on the amendments establishing committees. The only adjustments will be the names of the committees listed.

AMENDMENT #6 PASSED 3/17/2011 - (yea 45 - nay 6 - abstain 0)

Summary: This amendment is to clarify the wording such that it is understood that faculty can only recommend changes to the President.

AMENDMENT #7 PASSED 3/17/2011 - (yea 47 - nay 4 - abstain 0)

Summary: This amendment will require that committees bring forth policy matters to College-wide Faculty meetings for ratification. Policy can be anything from the end-of-course surveys to how student excuses will be validated, it is, however, not course proposals.

AMENDMENT #8 PASSED 3/17/2011 - (yea 43 - nay 7 - abstain 1)

Summary: This amendment separates the Committee on Instruction and its three subcommittees into two standing committees, Curriculum and Instructional Quality and Academic Standards.

AMENDMENT #9 PASSED 3/17/2011 - (yea 46 - nay 5 - abstain 0)

Summary: This amendment modernizes the scope and responsibilities of the committee on research and provides guidelines for its population.

AMENDMENT #10 PASSED 3/17/2011 - (yea 43 - nay 7 - abstain 1)

Summary: This amendment modernizes the scope and responsibilities of the committee on public service and outreach and provides guidelines for its population.

AMENDMENT #11 PASSED 3/17/2011 - (yea 43 - nay 7 - abstain 1)

Summary: This amendment establishes a committee on student life.

AMENDMENT #12 PASSED 3/17/2011 - (yea 44 - nay 6 - abstain 1)

Summary: This amendment creates the College-wide Promotion and Tenure Committee as outlined in the College-wide P&T Guidelines.

V. NEW Business

A. Elections

The following positions will be on the ballot. We hope for more nominations in all categories.

Secretary:

SUNY Senator: Klaus Doelle, incumbent, will stand for re-election

Chair of Research: Philippe Vidon

Chair of Curriculum:

Chair of Instructional Quality and Academic Standards: Paul Crovella, yet to accept nomination

Chair of Public Service and Outreach (1-year interim): Melissa Fierke

Chair of Student Life: Greg McGee, yet to accept nomination

Chair of Awards (1-year interim): Jack Manno, incumbent, will stand for re-election

Chair of Promotion and Tenure will be elected by that body.

Nominations are open until April 20, two weeks before the next meeting on May 4. Please make sure that anyone you nominate is willing to serve. A few people were nominated from the floor (Yanai, Teece) but they declined.

Bruce: if the faculty won't step up to do this, we might as well not have faculty governance.

Kelley: Faculty complain that the administration does the work, but we don't step up.

Ruth: Some of the positions are for one-year interim Chairs, so that we don't again have the situation in which all the Chairs are up for election at once.

Lindi: Our department needs to look strategically at who will be serving on which committee, we shouldn't make nominations from the floor.

Ruth: It's a good thing if this goes back to departments, now they know what they need to do.

Kelly will speak to Academic Council next week to alert department heads to these needs. If they provide people to the committees in advance of the nomination deadline, they can nominate Chairs from within the committees.

B. SUNY Budget Resolution

A draft of a SUNY Budget Resolution was circulated before the meeting and discussed and amended at this meeting. There is a demand for a rational tuition increase; without this, 10-20% of our students will not be able to graduate in a 4-year time frame, based on faculty losses, the hiring freeze, and our costs with Syracuse University.

Greg Boyer: Do we know that that 10-20% number is real? It's been in the newspaper, where did it come from?

Kelley: Maureen did her best.

Greg: If there is a tuition increase, is there any guarantee that a tuition increase would help us?

Bruce: The request is that the tuition increase would come back directly to the campuses.

Ruth: In the past, tuition increases have reduced the state allocation and not helped us at all. Is that true?

Bruce: Yes, but that's not what we're asking for. The only basis for the request is that the money would come back and help the campuses meet their mission. The thing that's not in here that should be is the potential compromise in the quality of our services, with larger class sizes. I'm worried about the students that are most at risk of not succeeding; they are not going to get the attention they need, with less money for tutorial services.

Kelley: Are you proposing a friendly amendment?

Bruce: Yes. The cuts will decrease the probability of success of at-risk students. We would retain "access" by keeping costs low but the students will not graduate.

We struggled with the wording, passed a friendly amendment, and passed another to amend the amendment. We approved the amended resolution.

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A RATIONAL FISCAL PLAN FOR SUNY

Faculty Governance of the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry

**March 23, 2011
Supported Unanimously**

WHEREAS, the mission of the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry is to educate students and, in so doing, to support the economy and culture of New York State, and

WHEREAS, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry's tuition is only \$4,970 per year, the lowest for public universities in the region and among the lowest in the nation; and

WHEREAS, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry tuition raises have been historically unpredictable, with 13 raises over the last 48 years ranging from 7% to 43%; and

WHEREAS, the 2011-2012 Executive Budget proposal will bring a 4-year total of \$1.5 billion in budget cuts to SUNY and a 20% cut in State support to the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry; and

WHEREAS, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, has the potential to create unprecedented opportunities for current and future college students and their families, for businesses and industries, for educational, social, and cultural agencies, and for the workforce of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry needs fiscal stability to realize this potential; and

WHEREAS, these budget cuts will impinge most severely on the services required for the success of at-risk students; and

WHEREAS, a five-year tuition plan that is fair, predictable and responsible for students and that keeps all tuition revenues at SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry will provide current and future students and their families the ability to plan adequately; and

WHEREAS, a Rational Fiscal Plan for public institutions of higher education would entail a commitment by New York State to cover the mandatory operational costs, and to maintain that support in the future;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry Faculty Governance strongly supports the State University's proposal for the enactment of a five-year rational tuition plan,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the maintenance of effort by the state throughout any given year is

an essential element of a rational fiscal plan,

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry Faculty Governance commends this proposal to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature in the hope that it will be enacted quickly and signed into New York State Law

C. GPES Areas of Study (Yanai)

The Graduate Program in Environmental Science invites proposals for new Areas of Study; this will be on the agenda at our next meeting.

Some of you know more about the history of GPES than I do; I came on as the Graduate Coordinator in January when Dave Johnson retired. The Areas of Study have been in place for a long time, and we are interested in reviewing them.

There are currently six Areas of Study in GPES, including one that was administered by FNRM, which is now also under GPES. So, there are no longer any interdepartmental programs that are not in GPES.

There is a committee for GPES consisting of the leaders of the Areas of Study (<http://www.esf.edu/environmentalscience/graduate/areas.htm>)

The Areas of Study and the leaders are currently as follows.

Environmental Systems and Risk Management: Chris Nomura

Water and Wetland Resources: Rick Smardon

Environmental and Community Land Planning: Colin Beier, for Margaret Bryant

Environmental Communication and Participatory Processes: Mark Meisner

Environmental Policy and Democratic Processes: Sharon Moran

Environmental and Natural Resources Policy: Sharon Moran.

There are people who are thinking about new Areas. Energy has been discussed, and Biophysical and Ecological Economics.

Our goal is to propose these to the Committee on Curriculum next year, to take effect in the 2012-2013 academic year. We will also be reviewing the curricula for all the Areas. This will be on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

Doug: Tell us what the attributes are of an Area that would fit the bill.

Ruth: One reason this exists is so that we can have Areas of Study that don't fall within a department. Students apply to them. They have a major professor, who has a department, who gets credit for the student regardless of whether they are in GPES. So, why do we do this? Because we can attract students, we can market a program that doesn't fit within a department. Then, these groups have responsibility for reviewing the applications that come through, the Area of Study Leaders are making decisions on applications and ranking candidates for what resources are available to support them. There are 8 TA lines, or 16 semesters of support, available through GPES.

Valerie: Areas of interest are bubbling up, faculty are telling us that students are interested in a curriculum in new areas. This is also happening in the undergraduate program in Environmental Science.

Russ: In fact, we have a new area coming up in Environmental Health shortly, through COI.

Valerie: This is venue for launching curricular opportunities that involve faculty from more than one department.

Ruth: Do you want to address undergraduate opportunities next month, as well as the graduate opportunities?

Russ: Let's keep them separate; they are both major efforts.

Peter: When I came here, we had an interdisciplinary group in Water Resources; applications were routed to the participating professors, and the requirements for the student were those in which the major professor served. This is the easiest way to handle things.

Ruth: That's still possible; you can always take in a student under the requirements of your own department, and you can request anyone on campus to review those applications. That continues to be important.

Kelley: The "No Excuse" Reading Day Faculty Meeting will be on May 4. President Murphy will present the State of the College at the end of the year. Valerie will present a report on Middle States accreditation. Ruth will invite the GPES Areas of Study, and anything else that comes up between now and then. Enjoy the food and drink.

Meeting adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ruth Yanai