

**State University of New York
College of Environmental Science and Forestry**

**Meeting of the Faculty
November 30, 2000**

I. Call to Order

Chairman Scott Shannon called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. in 5 Illick Hall.

II. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of College Faculty meeting of October 26, 2000 were approved with no modifications.

III. Report of the President

Dr. Murphy presented a Powerpoint presentation report (hard copy attached) summarizing; Role of Universities in Economic Growth; ESF Enrollment; Performance-Based Budget Process; and Visibility Initiatives. Highlights of the President's Report are summarized herein.

SUNY Mission Review Initiative outcomes are expected to refocus energies of campuses, reduce excessive competition amongst campuses and increase sponsored research. The Chancellor is expected to sign in January 2001.

ESF Enrollment is projected to grow modestly, however, growth is a function of available facilities. We will seek growth in high quality students, as determined by the Selectivity Matrix.

We are looking for \$0.5 million per year growth in sponsored research over the next five years, so that we attain approximately \$12.9 million of sponsored research in 2004-2005.

Mission Review efforts and the Middle States Accreditation process both support a strategic planning initiative encompassing the next 10 to 20 years.

The New York Business Council is considering support of an effort to establish a \$400 to \$600 million research fund for research and development at New York State Universities and Colleges. This is in recognition that economic growth is fueled by an educational system that produces graduates and research in New York.

Student enrollment initiatives will include request to Faculty to make personal contact with prospective students that have applied but are undecided. ESF's enrollment in Fall 2000 was +1.6% over prior year, while graduate student enrollment was -0.7% for same period.

Performance-Based Budget Process

Faculty need to know how the things they do affect the PBB process. Unlike in the past, each campus retains tuition, fees and interest. A 3-year rolling average full-time equivalent is used to direct state support for campus. There is a core support to small (<3000 students) campuses. A distinct benefit for ESF is the graduate student support and the support for land grant and specialized forestry missions. For ESF, the sponsored research activity support (20% of 3-year weighted average) is especially important. Thus, the College's focus on increased sponsored research will yield benefits in many ways.

ESF has increased its visibility in the printed media, including advertising in the *Syracuse New Times*, *SU Basketball Yearbook* and *Journal of Forestry*.

The President is working on strategies planning with the Cabinet and College Community. Dubbed *Thinking and Acting Strategically*, the plan is to define ESF's future by organizing, taking stock, developing a vision and strategy, creating a plan, and implementing the plan. Many of the faculty here today will not be here to see the long-term plan implemented over the next 20 years, but will play an important role in securing ESF's future.

IV. Report of the Executive Committee – Our next Faculty meeting will involve a discussion regarding advising by faculty and ways to improve advising. Ms. Roanne Bosch and Ms. Caroline Romano representing the Undergraduate Student Association were invited to speak to the Faculty. They described the USA goals for 2000-2001 to include improved communication and accountability. Increased communication with faculty includes student leader retreat with Dr. Murphy, as well as supporting an alternative Career Fair, discussions of diversity and tutor evaluations. Students have displayed a negative response to the Campus Television in Nifkin Lounge (which will apparently be turned off and removed). The ESF student relationship with SU and the student fees assessed to ESF students will also be examined. The USA also has a strong public service initiative this year, including helping at Rescue Mission and raffles for United Way benefit.

V. Report of the Committee on Research– No report

VI. Report of the Committee on Instruction - (Professor Lewis)
Recommended accepting proposal for Faculty of Environmental Studies to develop a new area of study in the Graduate Program in Environmental Studies: "Environmental communication and Participatory Processes." Passed voice vote.
Recommended accepting proposal for Faculty of Forestry to change the name of a graduate area of study from "Forest Recreation and Tourism" to "Recreation Resource Management." Passed voice vote.
Reported that COI is collecting information regarding difficulties encountered with implementing General Education requirements. Please submit information to COI.

Policies regarding the use of survey questionnaires are being developed by a subcommittee and are available on the Committee web site. Please review. Janine DeBaise presented an update on the ESF Learning Community. In summary, this community of freshman students lives in one residence hall, where experiences in writing course and Botany course are joined in the first semester. In the second semester, the students participate in a community service project. There are 58 students on Sadler 8. The program promotes holistic, integrated learning involving botany and writing. Activities in the residence hall explore diversity and student life issues.

Discussion: Benefits of the program include the ESF Ambassador program, where the students return to recruit at their high schools. The students involved in the program have formed a close and cohesive group. More students want to get involved; Sadler 8 seems to be a focal point for many freshmen and some SU students. The students are developing an assessment process to assess the program. We are also working with SU to explore adding programs for ESF/ SU students.

VII. Report of the Committee on Public Service– (Dr. Raynal)

The committee is partnering with the Committee on Instruction to present the Faculty Symposium on Teaching, Learning and Technology on February 2, 2001 in Marshall Hall Lounge. See the IDEaS web site for details.

VIII. Report of the SUNY Senator (none)

IX. Report of the SU Senator– No report

X. Old Business: None.

XI. New Business: None.

XII. Adjournment at 4:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Douglas Daley
Secretary