

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

**Meeting of the Faculty
April 26, 2001**

Faculty Attendance: Abrahamson, L; Bentley, W.; Bevilacqua, E.; Cabasso, I.; Canham, H.; Chatterjee, A.; Daley, D.; Davis, C.; Dibble, T.; Drew, A.; Elkins, E.; Fernando, D; Francis, R.; Frey, R.; Hall, C.; Hall, M.; Hassett, J.P.; Hawks, R.; Hussein, R.; Kyanka, G.; Malmshemer, R.; Maynard, C.; Meisner, M.; Meyer, R.; Murphy, C.; Nakas, J.; Norton, R.; Porter, W.; Powell, W.; Raynal, D.; Ringler, N.; Shannon, S.; Smardon, R.; Smith, W.; Spuches, C.; Stipanovic, A.; Teale, S.; Teece, M.; Tully, W.; Verostek, J.; Wagner, J.; Weir, A.; White, E.; Williamson, J.; Winter, W.; Guest Attendance: Bennett, M.; Boothroyd, B.; Collella, G.; Fennessy, M.; Heffernan, J.; Irvin, E.; Langlois, C.; Sanford, S.; Storrings, D.; VonHoff, S.; Webb, C.

I. Call to Order

Chair Scott Shannon called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in 5 Illick Hall.

II. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of College Faculty meeting of March 22, 2001 were approved with no modifications.

III. Report of the Executive Committee

Chair Shannon reported on Faculty Governance elections. The results are: Secretary, Valerie Luzadis; Chair, Committee on Instruction, Gary Scott; Chair, Committee on Research, Charles Maynard; SU Senator, Deborah Storrings; and At-Large Representatives, William Bentley, William Winter, Rene Germain and Charles Spuches. Thank you for service was extended to outgoing officers: Douglas Daley (Secretary); Al Lewis (Chair, Committee on Instruction); Jim Palmer (Chair, Committee on Research); Bennette Tiffault (SU Senator).

IV. Report of the President

Dr. Murphy presented a Powerpoint presentation report (attached) summarizing ESF relationship with Syracuse University. Highlights of the presentation include: Accessory Instruction: we have an agreement through 2005 with a 3% escalation factor (better than previous agreement) and greater ESF control of ESF student access to SU courses to alleviate ESF students being closed out.

Academic Programs: Provost Tully has discussed issues with SU Provost Freund regarding General Education requirements; quality of instruction; scheduling and strategic planning.

Joint Academic Program Activities: potential Council on Hydrologic Systems Science, NY Indoor Environmental Quality Center, NYSTAR Environmental Quality Systems and SB3 - structural biology biochemistry and biophysics.

Recognize strong SU Support in International Student Programs; Learning Community Initiative (strong cooperation); ABET review support indicates a relatively seamless relationship with engineering.

Need to work in areas of dormitory access (limit of 235 slots limits growth); involvement in Central NY technology development center; SU Chancellor's office attitude towards ESF similar to that of a stepchild.

Overall, relationships in various areas range from "seamless" to "constructive tension" and at times varies from "considerate" to "benign neglect".

Betsy Elkins pointed out the excellent relationship with the SU library and access to its multitude of databases and resources.

Charlie Hall provided example of Physics instructors meeting with ESF faculty to address concerns in physics courses.

President Murphy provided update on SUNY ESF 2000-2001 operating budget. The budget was \$30.1 million. Our revenues were greater than budget, expenses also exceeded budget. Actual end of year, expenses will be approximately \$10,000 over revenue. We accomplished what we set out to do. For ESF 2001-2002, much of increase is due to salary increases (approx. \$0.5 million). Utility costs projected to increase \$200,000. While currently projecting a deficit, many factors including number of incoming students and research volume will affect our budget.

President Murphy recognized Professor George Curry, who will be formally recognized on May 23 by SUNY to honor research in Arts & Letters. The chancellor's awards for Student excellence will also be received by three ESF students.

President Murphy concluded by stating that action items and issues raised at the forum on January 19, 2001 as part of the Middle States Self-study have been prioritized and are available by Web access. On a related note, the College has hired a Web Coordinator, who will start in May.

V. Report on ESF Summer Institute (Provost Tully)

Dr. Tully's PowerPoint presentation is attached. Highlights of the presentation follow. Faculty are encouraged to participate in the Faculty Mentoring Forum "Focus on Advice to Faculty Advisors of Undergraduate Students." This forum is an outgrowth of comments received by the administration during informal meetings with student representatives, issues raised by the Focus Group meetings in January and student survey responses. Dr. Tully outlined the proposed schedule for the day, with the emphasis being on opportunities for faculty to mentor faculty. This forum will be followed up during the summer with individual faculties developing guidance for faculty advisors.

VI. Report of the Committee on Instruction - (Marla Bennett)

The Committee on Instruction recommended action on items that are summarized in the table attached to the minutes. Faculty actions are summarized herein.

- a. CM/WPE: drop WPE 327. Passed voice vote.
- b. ERFEG: drop APM 640; approve modifications and proposals for APM 395; APM 595; FEG 340; ERE 540; ERE 445; ERE 645; ERE 506; ERE 652; FEG 340; ERE 567. Passed Voice Vote.
- c. Forestry: Drop *Resource Policy and Management*; Add *Environmental and Natural Resource Policy*; Add *Natural Resources Management*; Add Ph.D. in

Environmental and Natural Resource Policy; Adopt course proposals for FOR 677; FOR 695; FOR 754; APM 650; APM 653; FOR 333; FOR 533; FOR 370. Passed Voice Vote.

- d. ES: add Ph.D. in *Environmental and Natural Resources Policy*; adopt course proposals for ENS 702; EST/EFB 220; EST/FOR 401; EST/FLA 402. Passed Voice Vote.

- e. ES: Proposal for *Minor in Urban Environmental Science* was moved for adoption by Bentley, second by Hawks.

Canham moved to delete language from the Catalog Description in the section entitled "Elective Courses" so that the first sentence will read "At least two courses (6 credits) chosen from among over sixty courses available across campus." Second by M. Hall. Amendment passed by voice vote.

Discussion on first motion: Daley and J.P. Hassett confirmed understanding that required courses or elective courses within a student's "home" faculty cannot be counted towards satisfying the six elective credits required for the minor. These programs are heavily loaded with required courses and required "electives" so it is unlikely that this minor is truly open to all ESF students due to logistical constraints.

Smardon moved to adopt an amendment that "elected courses cannot be those specified within the student's major." Second by Maynard.

In discussion, Powell noted that ES students can take the ES-listed required courses to satisfy the minor, so we're setting up an artificial system to allow them to satisfy the minor requirements. Norton observed that if ESF programs are so highly specialized that they can't fit in elective courses, then the program can't have it both ways. He reiterated that the purpose of a minor is to extend knowledge outside of a student's program.

Hussein noted that ABET requirements require breadth and depth of knowledge, but also requires a certain amount of coursework within engineering that might preclude a student from pursuing a minor.

Smardon defended the amendment as being in the spirit of language of the Faculty policy regarding minors and the effort to "minimize" courses within a student's program.

The Smardon amendment was defeated by 10 (aye) to 14(nay).

Bentley called the question.

Motion as amended passed 25 (aye) to 1 (nay).

- f. Change name of graduate study areas from *cultural Landscape Conservation* to *Cultural Landscape Studies and Conservation*; from *Environmental Design and Planning* to *Landscape and Urban Ecology*; minor changes in *Community Design and Planning*. Passed voice vote.

VII. Report on General Education - (Dr. Raynal)

Dr. Raynal's notes are appended to these minutes. Note that a new SUNY body, the General Education Assessment Review (GEAR) Committee has been established to review campus procedures to provide continued development of campus GenEd plans. When implemented, local campuses will make decisions regarding GenEd, under purview of GEAR.

VIII. New Business:

C. Hall: is there a way to implement an easier way to retrieve voice mail messages?

C. Hall: can we get a central clearinghouse for campus email news so that we aren't bombarded every day with multiple reminders of events?

There was no discussion or action on either item.

IX. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Douglas Daley
Secretary