

Forest Ecosystems and Society

Department Meeting

Wednesday, 15 March, 2017

Richardson 115

In Attendance:

Jessica Bagley	Keith Jayawickrama
Badege Bishaw	Misty Magers
John Campbell	Mark Needham
Ashley D'Antonio	Michael Nelson
Lisa Ganio	Ian Munanura
Meghan Foster	Steve Pilkerton
Troy Hall	Bill Ripple
Reem Hajjar	Dave Shaw
Scott Harris	Chris Still
Glenn Howe	Steve Strauss

SAF Membership (Presented by Steve Pilkerton)

- Society of American Foresters
 - Forestry Professionals
 - Join the SAF-Mary's Peak Chapter (your local chapter)
 - Open to many different job titles, Natural Resources included
 - We all work in the forest
- What can you get from being in SAF?
 - Networking
 - Leadership
 - Professional development opportunities
 - Membership
 - Staying up to date on current forestry management and policy issues
- What are we about?
 - Benefiting society and the forest
 - We are all involved in the forest, thus the need to come together
 - Ethics and principles all members follow
- Currently our organization mostly has mid-fifties aged members; we would like to add members of different ages
- Why join?
 - Diversity in our members and in the background of work we all do
 - Forest practices/policies – helping members stay knowledgeable
 - Local focus with larger governing body to benefit from
 - Many different professional development opportunities
 - Research and practice -- opportunity to meet

- Could benefit for P&T? (or your resume)
- Leadership opportunities
- Students can join as well
 - OSU has an SAF student chapter- Quite active
- Questions?
 - Can we get more info for FES students?
 - Yes, we will need to connect with the current OSU student president
 - Dave Shaw shared about working groups
 - Policy input and talk about hot topics that concern your group
 - What policy issues does SAF address and what do you do about them?
 - As an organization, we try to come together as a group and support big pushes for changes
 - Advocate for change through position statements in politics, which all members have a vote about
 - Can NR students join?
 - Yes

Field Forest Health Graduate Class (Presented by Dave Shaw)

- Current situation we (graduate advisors and general faculty) see:
 - New graduate students come to OSU. They have little to no experience or knowledge about Pacific Northwest tree and shrubs or forest issues in the area
- Created a Field Forest Health class
 - First time offered was last fall, 2 weeks before Fall term
 - This caused some issues for new students and it was not well attended
 - However, the class covered a lot of material
- Need help/feedback on how to restructure the course in order to be what the college graduate students need
 - Current offering ideas:
 - 1 week in Charleston at OMSI
 - 1 week at the H.J. Andrews Forest
 - Problem with this: fees are too high
 - OR
 - Meeting one full day each week during the Fall quarter, Fridays for example
- Questions, thoughts, or concerns?
 - Have you looked into other days of the week?
 - Not yet, but we are open to finding one that will be more accommodating if there are limitations with Fridays
 - Are there any prerequisites?
 - Graduate Student
 - To be noted:
 - When trips/courses like this are offered, grad students really benefit from them and enjoy them

- Concern: 2 weeks before class starts is a hard time to have grad students away
 - Many other OSU events happen during that time
- Have you thought about the trip being during Spring break and the course part during the term?
- Have you considered having the course throughout the quarter and doing a few weekend trips?
 - Not yet, but it sounds like a possible thing
- How do we get faculty to encourage their students to take this class? Are FES faculty thinking this course could benefit their students?
 - We see no issues with the course prefix (SFM vs. FOR vs. FES)
- Is \$500 in fees too much?
 - YES (from many faculty)
- Could a stakeholder (donor) be involved to alleviate some of the costs for students?
 - That is possible, though we have not looked into that yet
- Other things to know:
 - We put a course proposal in for this Fall
 - It may be changing
 - We suggest advertising this course to the different departments

Updates and Announcements from the Department Head (Presented by Troy Hall)

- When you reserve a room and rearrange the furniture, please put it back to the room set up
- Dean's awards will be March 21st from 11-1 in Richardson 115
 - Please show up to support your colleagues who are getting awards
- We have a new Provost
- We are being requested to take Wild Haven property in Sisters, OR, from TNC. About 160 acres of land
 - Estimated \$15,000 to maintain yearly
 - The dean has wanted to have land in Eastern Oregon; could this be a teaching or research forest?
 - Has a cottage on it
 - Biggest risk is fire
 - We may have a group of college members go visit it
- Natural Resources undergraduate program update:
 - Almost ready to submit the CAT 2
 - We are working on implementing the action plan from the 10 year review
 - 3 big items from the undergraduate curriculum committee
 - Concerns about Eastern Oregon University offering of this program
 - Reviewers recommended that a faculty full time faculty should be the director, not the DH
 - They are concerned about the difference between the NR and Environmental Science program
 - Mark Needham's insights

- The NR was created in 1993
 - Bo Shelby maybe able to help with some of this request
- University budget
 - 20 million dollar short fall in 2018 FY
 - The Foundation will be having another Capital Campaign
 - Estimated to hire 48 new employees to process this campaign
 - We will lose money from endowments for this new campaign
 - OSU will also see a 4-8% tuition increase
 - The college is on a hiring freeze because of this
 - Question: Will the tuition increase affect the number of tuition waivers programs get?
 - Maybe, the Dean would be the person to decide this
 - Question: How can faculty appropriately express concerns about this?
 - At the president and provost meetings
 - Maybe you can tell our Dean and he could advocate for some other explanation

Retreat Survey (Presented by Steve Strauss)

- Survey about the idea of a retreat was sent to 53 professorial faculty and instructors
 - 53 people, 22 filled out the survey
- In general, respondents want a retreat to happen
 - What they want to see is:
 - Community building, research collaboration, and
 - Social informal time and formal driven agenda time
 - Off campus
 - Annual, people are split about whether it should be one day or overnight, could be before the beginning of Fall term at HJ Andrews
 - People want the retreat to focus on topics other than what we talk about during departmental meetings. People want follow up and want to discuss larger topics that require a team effort/collaboration
 - There should be a good balance of social time and work time
 - Suggestions: Mandatory, but not overnight, off campus, prompts/topics to work on a little before hand
 - Schedule this significantly ahead of time
- We have a lot of options of how this retreat could go