Attendance:
Matt Betts
Arial Cowan
Vernita Ediger
Cristina Eisenberg
Reem Hajjar
Troy Hall
Suhyun Jung
Misty Magers
Ian Munanura
Mark Needham
Michael Nelson
Rajat Panwar
Klaus Puettmann
Ron Reuter
Paul Ries
Bill Ripple
Stacy Rosenberg
Randy Rosenberger
Sharon Shen
Dave Stemper
Chris Still
Steve Strauss
Juliet Sutton
Dana Warren
Randy Rosenberger, General Announcements:


Randy Rosenberger, updates on search for department head and recent possible spousal hire:

- Department head search- Working on PD and recently got it approved. Current timeline has applications due late January and end of February is on-site interviews. Internal at this time but if we have a lack of candidates it will go external.
- Spousal hire update- We did not hire Chris Baraloto, he is remaining at his original institution. We also talked about the staffing plan and how it probably needs an update soon. Recently Randy submitted a list of ideal faculty hires for a potential state funding increase, but that increase is unlikely. Some discussion of our current hiring priorities followed, with genetics, mycorrhiza, tropical forestry, and Native American-related work being mentioned.
- Discussion of our current priorities-- which need dealt with now vs which are better to hold for the new department head. Problems with lack of instructors for courses, so we may need to reactivate the college curriculum committee. FCC certificate mentoring and intro class cannot wait for new department head, so that will need immediate attention. The staffing committee could possibly decide to meet soon in order to help record our priorities in preparation for the new department head.

Mark Needham, Pool of GTA funding to help recruit new grad students

- One idea for a new GTA system is to develop a somewhat competitive pool of TAs. Early in this process, but still discussing which courses would be part of this, who would decide, etc. Also need to consider that the minimum TA-ship is likely to continue to go up.
- Also collecting feedback about the FES required classes. We need to discuss if FES 521 should continue to be taught after Glenn retires, since it mostly serves non-FES students and the topic overlaps with FES 520’s current form.