

FES Department Meeting

Wednesday, December 15th at 11:30pm, Zoom only

Attendees:

Glenn Ahrens	Dawn Anzinger	Samuel Bell
Matt Betts	Ariel Cowan	Janean Creighton
Ashley D'Antonio	EJ Davis	Autumn Ellison
Reem Hajjar	Troy Hall	Laura Hartley
Tak Iwamura	Eric Jones	Meg Krawchuk
Misty Magers	Mark Needham	Michael Nelson
Klaus Puettmann	Paul Ries	Bill Ripple
Stacy Rosenberg	Sharon Shen	Dave Stemper
Chris Still	Steve Strauss	Juliet Sutton

Troy Hall – Updates and General announcements

Department Announcements:

- IT Security Training is now required for anyone with admin privileges. Please complete it soon. See email from Terralyn.
- The IRB office is changing the process for human subjects research, which should hopefully shorten the process. However, their office is very short staffed right now so things may take longer to process in the short term.
- PROF Reviews are coming up. Get your materials to Misty by Jan 20th. Reviews will be during February and March. Please update your Digital Measures profile – this is used to pull annual report information on publications, etc. Please also review your PD as well.
- The College DEI Workgroup will be doing a focused review of all academic degree programs in the college this year. This will involve focus groups with curriculum committees and reviews of program documents. However, understanding how faculty approach DEI in their classes requires input from individual instructors. Thus, each of the department heads is including several questions developed by the DEI workgroup that they ask all teaching faculty to be prepared to discuss during PROF meetings. Those will be sent around with the request for PROF materials.
- Search updates: the Policy/Econ search recently passed its soft close deadline and is moving forward, with campus visits coming around February. The Forest Carbon position is still open. The FERM Econ position was recently posted, so is a bit behind ours.
- We welcome Vernita Ediger as new instructor in natural resources.

Dawn Anzinger/Paul Ries - Shared peer review of draft revised teaching policy

- This is an overview of the work the committee has done. Discussion will occur in January.
- Link: <https://oregonstate.box.com/s/nwhjolfnr8yyg6vxi7lxa6o1nz3xzajq>

- The major goals of this update were adding guidelines for online teaching and incorporating the Quality Teaching Framework voted on by the Faculty Senate last year. They also streamlined some parts of the procedure.
- Please send feedback on the draft in an email to Dawn. The major questions Dawn raised will be discussed during the January department meeting.
- There are several topics, like which courses we choose to review, and our policy on “continuing mentors,” that they have not changed yet; however, they are interested in feedback about all aspects of the policy.

Introductions:

- Autumn Ellison, Program Coordinator for the Northwest Fire Science Consortium
- Ariel (Ari) Cowan, Assistant Professor of Practice- Regional Fire Specialist, Central Area

Michael Nelson – College strategic planning update

- A Google doc link was shared so that we can compile all of the thoughts, priorities, and suggestions for strategic planning.
- Michael gave an update on the last meeting. He has emphasized transparency to the committee, so that everything they can make public will be shared. He reinforced to our department that they want feedback from everyone.
- We have the opportunity to provide input into the SP process in addition to what is being collected by the consultant, so if there are topics that people feel strongly about, we can form ad hoc groups in January to discuss them.

Troy Hall - Departmental policy on Senior Research appointments – Discussion and vote on policy change

- Our current policy on converting post-docs to Assistant Professor, Senior Research positions requires letters from external dossier reviewers. The proposed change is to use letters of reference instead of dossier reviews. This would be more consistent with how other types of hires are made. (Conversion or hire as Asst Prof, Sr Research is a hiring decision, not a promotion.) Draft language was sent around after our previous departmental meeting in November; few comments were received, but all were positive.
- The vote was held via Zoom polling. Attendees holding rank of Assistant Professors or above were allowed to vote. 11 voted yes, 0 voted no, 4 Abstained.
- This update to our rules will take effect for our current applicant.