

October FES Department meeting notes

October 5 at 11am in Richardson 313

Attendance:

Matt Betts

Janean Creighton

Ashley D'Antonio

Eric Dickey

Lina Digregorio

Vernita Ediger

Cristina Eisenberg

Reem Hajjar

Skuyler Herzog

Eric Jones

Suhyun Jung

Katy Kavanagh

Leon Liegel

Misty Magers

Ian Munanura

Mark Needham

Michael Nelson

Melora Park

Miles Phillips

Klaus Puettmann

Ron Reuter

Paul Ries

Bill Ripple

Stacy Rosenberg

Randy Rosenberger

Sharon Shen

Emma Sloan

David Stemper

Chris Still

Steve Strauss

Juliet Sutton

Eli Swanson

Jessie Thoreson

Ann Van Zee

Dana Warren

Introductions of new faculty and staff:

Melora Park introduces Eric Dickey, joining the research support office as the Targeted Research Coordinator

Miles Phillips introduces himself, he has been with Sea Grant for several years and will now be splitting his time between there and FES

Cristina Eisenberg introduces herself as Associate Dean for Inclusive Excellence and Director of Tribal Initiatives

Suhyun introduces himself as Assistant Professor, Economics and Policy Dimensions of Forest-based climate solutions. He will be remote this school year and join us in person next fall.

Other Announcements from Randy Rosenberger, Interim Department Head:

New covid protocol for OSU: reach out to Randy if outbreak in class; no covid ambassadors any longer but old ambassadors can offer guidance

Check links for library on canvas or syllabi, they may have moved

Low cost/no cost materials bill is now in effect, instructors must communicate with bookstore about materials for classes, even if the answer is 'no required materials'

Grad school has mentoring workshop series this term, COF also having a forestry-specific one dec 7th. Online versions available.

Misty Magers, announcements:

Please approve your expenses in Concur. Business expenses older than 60 days are tax reportable so do those quickly. You can email travel office with questions. Please don't leave toner cartridges or cardboard around the building—cartridges can be dropped off at the helpdesk and cardboard goes in the dumpster outside of Richardson near the loading dock. FES office hours will be Monday through Thursday, 8-4:45, but Misty and Juliet are available through email on Fridays. Forestry business office is now called financial strategic services, Amy and Justin are gone and Evelyn and Mary are new, Christina and John del Bando are still there. FES.Workbox@oregonstate.edu is checked by both Misty and Juliet, so it's the best place to send room reservations, business card requests, notices you want sent to the department, and motor pool driver authorizations.

Juliet Sutton, announcements:

Reminder that per our posted deadlines, mid-April is the final point that a FES graduate application can have full consideration for the coming fall, and functionally mid-May is the latest we can go. Our admissions committee is full of 9 month appointees so we don't want to take their time over the summer, plus some things at the graduate school level stop over the summer. So whenever possible, have the prospective student submit their application and complete your major professor review by mid-May at absolute latest.

Another reminder that GRE scores are not required for the FES program (or any of our department's programs). That means that when GRE scores are submitted the coordinator, major prof, admissions committee do not look at them. The major professor cannot ask a prospective student to provide them either. This was discussed when the department voted on the issue in Spring 2021.

One question from the department: can we look into a pool-based TA-ship model? Yes, will put on the agenda for November meeting.

Mark Needham, reminder and updates:

We have 10 new FES students in this fall's cohort, on par with most years. 2 MF students, 5 MS students, 3 PHD students. Juliet will be emailing out photos of new cohort soon. All FES degrees are on-campus degrees, not online. Covid measures were temporary and we cannot add a modality (in this case, online/Ecampus) for a degree or for our required classes without a formal approval process. We could discuss adding that modality for the degree if there is interest in the department.

Randy Rosenberger, Discussion regarding search for department head:

This is time to talk about our expectations and how we want this search to be conducted. Randy did 7 listening sessions in recent weeks and collected many written comments. Tom is interested in doing an

internal to OSU search first before opening to outside of OSU if necessary. In box is the interim DH job description as a point of comparison. DEI should be more embedded in the future job description. Should we add emphasis on financial responsibility? Prior leadership experience also seems like a must. The relative weights of each category of the position description are worth discussing. Should we make it so that there is an associate DH and DH has portion of PD left for teaching/research? Should we hire the new DH on a 2 year trial basis, or a 5 year basis?

What are we looking for in a department head? Other discussion around the hiring process?

Was the third of the PD on external relations always there? No, previous department head's PD said .15 and even that usually didn't happen functionally speaking, though some portion of the PD is necessary to be external because the dean needs help in that area. Continue to think about our priorities in this area, how much weight we want to give this portion of the PD.

We may want to be flexible on the issue of giving them some FTE for continued research/teaching. We could have that be part of hiring negotiations. There is some support for keeping teaching as part of the PD to make job more attractive.

We may want the department head to be included in identifying grants that we can leverage multidisciplinary aspect of FES with, though Melora's office and other people in the college may be better suited to work on that than the DH.

Are there departments run by non-academics? Unclear. We could think about that, but potential issues with tenure, land grant mission focus, and ability to rally the academics they lead may arise.

Randy has given a recent update to the dean on the search, and the dean wanted to get a sense of what the department preferred—internal or external? Internal had the potential to be more cost-effective, but much smaller pool. Seems like not much more effort to just start it external. External also has the benefit of avoiding criticism of an internal-only search.

Search committee is not yet set, dean will be setting the members soon.

What is the timeline for the search? Randy is summarizing all feedback and sending to Tom soon, then Tom will be forming the search committee and they will be preparing the PD.

Randy is committed to staying in this role until the new person shows up. He's also willing to be a temporary associate DH while the new department head gets up to speed, if that seems appropriate.