

December FES Department meeting notes

December 7 at 11am in Richardson 313

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:

- Faculty Led Program for Summer 2023 - Food, Culture and Biodiversity in Ecuador July 19th – July 3, 2023 <https://oregonstate-idea.terradata.com/index.cfm?FuseAction=Programs.ViewProgramAngular&id=11288>

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.