

Forest Ecosystems and Society

Department Meeting

Monday, June 9, 2020

Remote through Zoom

In Attendance:

Glenn Ahrens	Rosario Allende	Matt Betts
Badege Bishaw	Amanda Brackett	Evan Bredeweg
Sonia Bruck	Janean Creighton	Ashley D'Antonio
EJ Davis	Betsy Emery	Michelle Greene
Reem Hajjar	Troy Hall	Zachary Hansen
Lara Jacobs	Meredith Jacobson	Keith Jayawickrama
Katy Kavanagh	Kailey Kornhauser	Meg Krawchuk
Rebecca Lemons	Leon Liegel	Misty Magers
Brenda Mc Comb	Ian Munanura	Mark Needham
Michael Nelson	Tara Pesterfield	Klaus Puettmann
Paul Ries	Stacy Rosenberg	Randy Rosenberger
David Rossi	Sharon Shen	Chris Still
Steve Strauss	Juliet Sutton	Dana Warren
Brad Withrow-Robinson		

Updates and Announcements from Department Head, Troy Hall

- As we end the year, big thanks to everyone for all that we did to make spring term happen in extraordinary circumstances. Courses went well and people have been extremely positive and adaptable.
- Please remember to turn in reimbursements, and check your salary distributions before year-end.
- Renewal letters are late this year but should come soon; contact Troy with any questions.
- Please reach out to Nicole Kent with any questions about struggling students. She can help you navigate incompletes and other options.
- Promotions were just announced at the university level. We are proud to announce the promotion of Chris Still to Professor, Meg Krawchuk to Associate Professor with tenure, Paul Ries to Senior Instructor, and Chad Hanson to SFRA II. Congratulations to all.
- Staffing updates:
 - Adrienne is now Director of Operations for Forestry (Roger Admiral is retiring).
 - Jennifer Elston, who starts June 15, has filled Adrienne's previous position as Assistant to the Dean.
 - Bill Ripple is now a Richardson Chair.
 - Kerry Menn continues to work on International Programs, but will also be doing student services work.
 - The Strategic Initiatives position held by Geoff Huntington has been eliminated.
- The faculty collective bargaining agreement is up for ratification now.

- Resumption of Activities memo: masks will be required on campus as of June 15. Details are still being worked out on how we are providing masks. If you will be working alone in an enclosed area, you are not required to wear a mask. Fall term face-to-face teaching ends at Thanksgiving break this year.
- Updates on teaching
 - Summer enrollments are up and fall enrollments are strong.
 - The Center for Teaching and Learning is doing workshops over the summer and offers one-on-one consulting. Please use them as a resource.
 - The university warns that we should be ready for a short-notice return to completely remote teaching if the situation changes.
 - We are still thinking about how best to do field learning, particularly the transportation issues.
- Graduate students may be being neglected in the current chaos, and several of them are struggling to work in sub-optimal situations. Reach out to Troy if you would like to talk to her about your situation or your student's situation.
- Friday's COF letter on racial inequality: the letter was written and signed by college leadership. It includes a list of feasible actions we can commit to in the relatively near future, but it is not exhaustive. They pledge to:
 - improve communication with our community of color
 - broadening trainings for all employees
 - Continuing frequent DEI events (please send Troy your ideas!)
 - re-evaluating scholarship processes-- note that federal law prevents us from mentioning race in scholarship language
 - more input from the DEI workgroup on implementing the College's strategic plan
 - Join with the College of Public Health and Human Sciences to advocate for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice training sessions as a condition of employment at OSU.