In attendance:

Advisory Board Members: Scott Folk, Dave Ivanoff, Cal Joyner (for Mary Wagner), Rosemary Mannix (for Marvin Brown), Catherine Mater, Hal Salwasser, Ed Shepard, Evan Smith, Barte Starker, Bea Van Home (for Bov Eav), Carol Whipple, and Rich Wninger

Absences: Jerry Brodie, Rick Brown, Gary Hartshorn, Ray Jones, Lee Miller, Jennifer Phillippi

Ex officio Members: Jim Geisinger, Ray Wilkeson

Guest: Denis VanWinkle

College of Forestry (CoF) Executive Committee Members: Roger Admiral, Eric Hansen, Jim Johnson, Thomas Maness, Brenda McComb, Tom McLain, Steve Tesch

OSU Foundation Member: Zak Hansen, CoF Development Officer

Presenters: David Zahler, Jeff Morrell, Dave Shaw, and Glenn Howe

I. Welcome and Introductory Remarks – Hal Salwasser

Hal called the meeting to order at 9:30 am with welcoming remarks. Self-introduction of participants followed. Two new members were introduced (Scott Folk and Evan Smith). Catherine Mater joined the meeting at 10:15 am. The 05-04-10 meeting minutes were approved. A brief update from Catherine Mater on the Iraq project was added on the agenda.

II. College of Forestry Strategic Planning – Hal Salwasser

Hal’s presentation included highlights from the College annual report, the College strategic themes on sustainability, the Forestry and FRL impacts from the Oregon Business Plan and Reset Cabinet report, the future goals for building on today’s strengths to meet tomorrow’s challenges and preparing for future workforce, alignment for max impact, research, and planning for resource constraints and growing demand. Hal discussed the challenges with the unfunded enrollment growth, maintaining faculty capacity, and the annual deficit to base budget around $2 M/yr. Hal described the areas where the College will need to grow, identified the potentials for funding growth, and discussed the revenues challenges. The presentation ended with four key messages: CoF/FRL at OSU is vital to OBP success, Oregon quality of life, jobs, and economy.
CoF/FRL brings distinction to OSU. Strength can be sustained only through strategic investment in faculty, staff, and instructors. Future gifts, grants, and contracts to CoF/FRL depend on strong outcomes from well supported programs. Hal opened the discussion with the Advisory Board Members and asked for comments, questions, and feedback on how they felt about the themes, the focus of CoF goals, the ideas about CoF business plan, and what CoF is not doing.

III. New Initiatives in the Forest Ecosystems and Society Dept. – Brenda McComb

Brenda provided an overview of the Forest Ecosystems and Society (FES) Department. Brenda’s presentation included information on the new graduate program, update on NR enrollment and options, the new online Masters of Natural Resources graduate program, and the outreach and Extension programs, grants and contracts. FES Department’s goals are to grow the on-campus programs by marketing the NR options. The new Forest Ecosystems and Society graduate program will be departmentally based to meet the needs of students studying biophysical and social systems. A number of discussions are going on regarding the future strategic directions of the department. FES could be the home to one or more climate change positions from the Provost’s Hiring Initiative. FES is currently working with the PNW Station to develop a plan to change leadership of the HJ Andrews LTER program. Brenda described some new opportunities that are being explored: (Landscape Center, USGS Climate Science Center, campus collaboration with environmental humanities, graduate program in applied economics, interdepartmental undergraduate program in plant sciences, COAS reorganization in terrestrial ecosystems, school on Public policy).

[Catherine Mater and Brenda had a conversation about connecting the new medical school from Lebanon with College of Forestry on these new opportunities.]

IV. New Initiatives in the Forest Engineering, Resources and Management Dept. – Thomas Maness

Thomas gave an overview of the Forest Engineering, Resources and Management (FERM) Department Education programs: the undergraduate programs (Forest Management, Forest Operations Management, Forest Engineering, and Forest Engineering/Civil Engineering), the new Sustainable Forest Management graduate program, the department signature strengths, the challenges and opportunities, and goals. FERM’s plan is to rebrand to attract more diverse students, create a new forest conservation management program, focus recruitment from partnerships, new teaching methods, create a field school to teach practical subjects, create a pre-professional and professional school. Thomas described how the curriculum worked, showed a diagram of the pro-school structure and discussed its benefits. The expected start will be in the Fall of 2011. The presentation ended with an update on FERM’s research organization and future directions on trans-disciplinary research.

V. SEEDS Program (Strengthening Education & Employment for Diverse Students) – David Zahler
SEEDS is designed to support underrepresented students in the College of Forestry from the day they enter to the day they graduate. One of the ways SEEDS will do this is through supporting paid school and summer work experiences where the emphasis is on directing meaningful work and developing meaningful professional relationships. David Zahler is the program coordinator. The SEEDS’ mission is to recruit and support diversity students and to provide them with pathways to career employment. The program is currently funded by the US Forest Service, BLM, and Oregon State University College of Forestry. With the funding received, David has been able to put together a website and videos, provide advising, activities and recruitment efforts. David asked the FRL AC members if they could find a vehicle in their organization for finding mentors, academic year work, and summer work. David invited FRL Advisory Committee members to work with him on opportunities to create these mentorship experiences with the students. The goal is to extend the SEEDS program beyond 2011-12. Members watched a video clip featuring a SEEDS professional mentor: “Meet Luis Palacios”.

VI. Future of Research Cooperatives – Steve Tesch

Steve Tesch’s presentation provided an update on the College of Forestry research and service cooperatives. Steve presented some background information and current portfolios of the research centers and cooperatives. The College has currently 11 active cooperatives. The College receives funding through grants and agreements and membership dues. Steve explained the funding mechanisms and the issues that cooperatives are facing in the future (i.e. forest industry consolidation, shifting agency priorities, university overhead, faculty leadership, coop budgets, long term funding model, term limits). Three cooperatives were featured.

- **Utility Pole Cooperative (WSE) - Jeff Morrell**
  National focus, membership growing
  Jeff’s presentation included a description of the members, the prime directive, the various research being done on the poles, field tests of ground line wraps, effect of holes on flexural properties of poles in service, effect of end plates on cross arm checking, effect of coatings on cross arm performance, external barriers on pole, chemical losses from ground line treatments, internal damage, decay above ground, pole scan report, and fire retardants. The presentation ended with a discussion of future prospects.

- **Swiss Needle Cast Cooperative, SNCC (FERM) – Dave Shaw**
  Regional focus, established to solve a problem
  Dave passed around a copy of the 2010 SNCC Annual Report. Dave’s presentation included a description of the members, the visible symptoms of the disease, the results of aerial surveys of the coastal Oregon, the SNCC management strategies in the epidemic area (integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategy) and its role in IPM.

- **Pacific Northwest Tree Improvement Research Cooperative, PNWTIRC (FES) – Glenn Howe**
Leverages cooperator dues with complementary NSF funded industry-university cooperative

Glenn’s cooperative conducts research on the genetics of PNW tree species to develop reliable, cost-effective genetic improvement methods, and transfer technology via publications, workshops, annual meetings, and consulting, trains personnel and supports graduate students. Glenn described the trends, outcomes of past research, current research, and gave an update on collaborations and grants.

VII. Capital Campaign Update - Zak Hansen

The College has been successful at meeting its goal. Zak described what the College was able to do. Despite the bad economy, people are still very giving. The goal of the capital campaign has been increased by $9M and the campaign extended by three years. Zak described the type of multi-year gifts he was working on.

Open Discussion

Rich Wininger made some comments about the countries listed on the slide from the FERM presentation regarding the Working Forests Institute for interdisciplinary research and made the remarks that the College will be able to contribute in the Pacific NW and South America but may not be the case for China and South Korea.

Hal explained that historically the College has drawn a substantial amount of graduate students from China, Korea, Japan, and Taiwan, lately from India. It will be important to maintain that international connection.

Evan Smith asked if FERM has thought about developing some collaboration/partnership with other universities abroad.

Hal let the committee know that a couple of faculty members from the Wood Innovation Center will be going with students in Finland/Sweden for a second study tour to learn about sustainability and green building initiatives. The project from the Middle East that Catherine Mater will present has also some potential to build some bridges from countries there and get faculty and students’ interactions.

Hal explained that the ideas that Thomas had presented will have to go through the strategic planning process.

Brenda asked the Advisory Committee to reflect on both presentations from FERM and FES and to give some feedback about whether or not they see a clear distinction between both departments. There is a fair amount of overlaps and the College is trying to distinguish them.

Bea Van Horne suggested that the two departments have a single identity.
Evan Smith thought that each department is taking a different strategy in assigning their degrees. Maybe having one degree with numerous options would help with administration targets.

Rich Wininger suggested that by 2012 the College would have some net earnings. It would be worthwhile for this group to have a conversation about the College Forests to look at when it would be a good time to put sales up and what is the maximizing value of the timber land.

Catherine Mater recommended that the Advisory Committee takes questions like these to provide some input back to see if there is an appropriate measure where a level of review should be done and report back to the Committee. The first subject was Brenda’s question regarding FES and FERM, looking at the similarities and differences. Is there value in looking at combination of programs with separate tracks, do we gain efficiencies or capability to gain more students, increase funding?

Hal explained that the strategic planning process will have the College working on these answers. This process will be in the data gathering/idea testing stage by next the FRL AC meeting.

Rich Wininger recalled that this committee had this discussion two years ago. The one concern was developing two groups in the school working together.

Bea Van Horne raised the issue of internal process, faculty being skeptical of ability of the administrator to let go of their territory and maybe the need to get an outside entity looking at the outcome.

Hal explained that this was the function of the Advisory Committee. The FRL AC has always been used as a College advisory committee. As the College moves forward into the strategic planning process. There will be an extensive engagement from the College’s traditional and new stakeholders. Hal mentioned the book titled “Peak Performance of Deans and Chairs” that the FEC will use during the strategic planning process to discuss the challenge of staying functional with people going different directions. Paul Axtell will be facilitating the upcoming FEC strategic retreat. Paul has been working with the OSU Deans and Provost’s Council and is a very good facilitator.

Evan Smith wanted to know about the level of collaboration that exists between FES and FERM. There seemed to be lots of overlap that Brenda and Thomas have to work around that. This situation creates lots of conflicts.

Catherine Mater suggested that this advisory committee put together some working groups/subcommittees to tackle these issues along with the College. Hal asked for feedback on this idea. The Committee was for this idea but wanted to know the time frame and commitment. Hal and Catherine will give some thoughts on how to structure this to get the benefits that the group would expect, at an acceptable cost to the people who would be doing the service. The time frame will be by the end of the academic year. The College has to have
its strategy ready to start the next biennium. The College has one year of the biennium to get the financial front resolved.

Catherine Mater gave an update on the Iraqi project with OSU. OSU received a grant from the Oregon Legislature a year and a half ago to bring 19 Iraqi engineering faculty from various academic institutions to come to the State of Oregon and OSU and give them full breadth experience in sustainable engineering, Greenbelt design, and sustainable forestry. They were so impressed with what they saw that they created their nation’s first coalition of sustainable engineering educators and sold the concept to their minister of higher education who in May announced the nation’s first national program in sustainable engineering education as it relates to engineering, forestry, and agriculture. Two weeks ago Catherine was in Bagdad with Governor Kulongoski and Dean Ron Adams from College of Engineering signing the five year partnership with the Government of Iraq in this implementation of the sustainable national education program. The Middle East is an untapped territory for OSU.

Closing Comments:

The Forestry Executive Committee thanked the members for their support, suggestions, and ideas.

Members thought that the day’s topics were great and found Catherine Mater’s briefing/summary of the Iraqi project very interesting. Catherine Mater offered to provide more details next time.

Rich Wininger was surprised to hear Catherine’s update on the Iraqi project and its potential for the College.

Zak Hansen liked Thomas’ idea and thought that this will attract more non-traditional students.

Rosemary Mannix appreciated the honesty about the College’s challenges. The Department of Forestry has always found pathways to work with the College of Forestry and will continue to do so regardless of how the College is organized. Regarding first year experience, Rosemary thought that it is important to have really strong links/connections between community college students and the College of Forestry faculty to increase engagements and finding ways to make it a total experience.

Ed Shepard saw much overlap between FES and FERM and was glad that the College was having some discussion about that as it will be an important thing to get resolved. Maybe this could also resolve the issue of the number of graduates in the programs.

Ed Jensen let the members know that he hoped that each of the organizations that the members represent will sponsor one of the College’s SEEDS program and to contact David Zahler to open the conversation. There are other short term programs that can be supported, i.e. sponsoring a field trip to your organization and in becoming a long term partner.

Carol Whipple felt that she learned so much and was very impressed with what is attempted to be done. The College of Forestry is a cornerstone for natural resources education in the state.
Hal suggested that he will invite Susan Sahnow, Director, of the Oregon Natural Resources Education Program (K-12 teacher education) next time.

It is Dave Ivanoff 4th advisory committee meeting. He is very impressed with the quality of the people and the work that is being done. His focus is to ensure that the graduates who leave this university/College of Forestry have the ability to manage the forests and come out without the perception that things have to be an either or scenario for the management of our natural resources. He is frustrated with the polarization that exists on the outside. He hopes that OSU can take an advocacy role in public policy in relation to land management. Dave expressed the urgency to improve public timber supply, to make sure that we have a viable forest products infrastructure, to build on what makes Oregon great, and to help deal with the revenue shortfall. His suggestion is to avoid the creation of silos. He sees the need for a collaborative approach.

Evan Smith thought that the current financial constraints and the desire to build new programs were daunting. He pointed out that the College is starting from a point of strength, being a preeminent school in the West. He advised that the College needs to take the time to think of the positive aspects of the things that it has going and to focus well beyond the state of Oregon. He will be happy to help.

Ray Wilkeson thought that the meeting was excellent and very informative as it always is. OSU College of Forestry is a very important institution not just to the forest industry but the entire state of Oregon. There are some tough challenges ahead on the budget side and OFIC will continue to be supportive.

Hal let everyone know that OFIC, AOL and Small Woodlands have been strong political partners for the College of Forestry cause.

Bea Van Horne saw additional avenues for collaboration between the Forest Service and the College.

Hal thanked everyone for their time, commitment, and engagements. The meeting ended with the recognition of the members who have ended their terms on the FRL Advisory Committee (Barte Starker, Rick Brown, Jenifer Philippi, and Ray Jones).

Wrapping comments from Hal, meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Minutes prepared by Nathalie Gitt and revised by Steve Tesch