



Oregon State University College of Forestry

Forestry Executive Committee Meeting Notes October 11, 2018

9:00 am **Welcome** – Anthony S. Davis

Katy Kavanagh and Neil Williams are new members to the FEC, and Evan will be filling in for Iain. The FEC acts as an advisory board to the dean and the current interim dean so please suggest topics for the agenda as this is an opportunity to bring up issues from peers and to take back information to your peers. This enables transparency. Regarding the budget, Roger, Penny, Sunny, and ASD as a whole have been working very hard to make the College Budget transparent. I'm working on it every day and once we have it sorted it will be shared with you.

Some changes for the coming year: the construction for Peavy is back on track, we are searching for a dean and new FERM leadership. Over all there is a lot coming at us but we have the right folks to make positive changes.

Unit Updates & Pressing Issues

Safety – All

A FES truck recently rolled down hill but no one was injured. FERM labs have been reviewed and there were only minor changes requested. There have been improvements to the eye wash stations. Richardson Hall is not often locked and doors usually aren't shut all the way on weekends. Keys for UGs are not typically given out, but FOBC does have after hours passes when needed. We need to tell students and others at unit meetings that the doors are locked on weekends for safety and security purposes.

Outreach and Engagement – Jim Johnson (*absent*)

Foundation Development – Zak Hansen

Brian Pecor left his position and we are discussing different strategies for going forward. The Foundation location has moved to Research Way and is no longer of 35th. There are a lot of meeting rooms and free parking if anyone would like to use the space.

WSE Department – Eric Hansen, Rakesh Gupta

Scott Leavengood received an award. The Juniper funding is continuing and the Educational Advisory Board dinner for Friends RM had \$45k in scholarship. There were 1,100 wood magic participants. There is a 22 CTE in service day for teachers tomorrow.

FOBC – Roger Admiral (*Penny Wright substituting*)

Elizabeth left for the private sector so there will be recruitment for a new accountant which may change how grants are managed and sub-agreements. There needs to be more collaborating with CEOAS to share duties. Christina started an MBA and Justin was promoted to Supervisor.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – Heather Roberts

Heather participated in new student orientations to promote community amongst the students and received positive feedback from UG and Grad communities. Getting to know each other is the first step to having more in depth conversations later. DEI workgroup is splitting into three subcommittees: Awareness/Training, Curriculum, and Recruitment/Retention. All the actions affect everyone across the college and outreach will ensure appropriate participation.

International Programs – Michele Justice (*Kerry Menn substituting*)

The annual report for FY18 is developing. All programs were filled to capacity last year and it looks the same for this year. A report will be sent to the group in the next few weeks. A quarterly newsletter is being developed to reduce emails. International Coffee will be on October 24, 10-11:30 in Richardson Hall on the 2nd floor.

FERM Department – Jim Johnson, Jeff Hatten

The SAF convention was last week. Tammy Cushing was general chair and is running for VP of SAF. Steve Pilkerton is now a fellow. FERM Coffees was led by John Bailey, first on UG Curriculum, second on P&T. ASD visited and discussed options for leadership: 1. New research; 2. Keep Jim; 3. Change PD to add Associate DH to see if that would make up for weaknesses of candidates; 4. Broaden internal search to all OSU; 5. Switch to a new model, like rotating chair. Options 2 and 3 were generally the most popular.

Computing Resources – Terralyn Vandetta

Jerry is no longer on staff and labs were imaged with new staffing plans. Training workshops will continue with new staff leading them for our students. Ken's last day is November 30th. Personnel plans are shifting and a new search for a revised Ken position will be launched as well as a survey to assess needs. Docusign has been a huge time saver for bill distribution-use it.

FES Department – Troy Hall, Steve Strauss

FES met Monday to generate ideas. Discussed predatory journals and had OSU library participate. There will be a bigger discussion at FEC on this. Reviews of administrators is a big topic. On campus graduate program enrollment reducing, but online programs increasing. TRAL/Rec/Tourism leadership nationally by our faculty and we may host a national conference in 2020 and the major IRSM conference in 2021 as well as Agroforestry in 2019.

Research – Katy Kavanagh (*Melora substituting*)

FWHMF program announcement is being developed and will be out soon. Concept papers will continue to be the first step, followed by an invitation for full proposal. The application for MacStennis was late but it is out and we will be getting ours soon. Disruptions are likely as the USDA/NIFA is moving out of their DC offices and reducing staff. Melora is serving on a committee for finance and administration campuswide. The committee is trying to streamline processes and administration.

Research Support Faculty – Michelle Day

RSF is rebuilding because there are still many members left. They are looking for a professional faculty to serve. A call for professional development funds is coming soon but the process is not changing. There is a mentoring initiative to increase connections among the RSF community. The initiative includes happy hours, welcome letter, and more presence on the website.

Forest Service, PNW Research Station – Paul Anderson (*absent*)**Student Services** – Randy Rosenberger

Beth Thompson joined advising for TRAL/NR. The official enrollment numbers will be out next week but the preliminary numbers look good: up to 1,200. 60 or so student transfers are picked up per quarter. The curriculum proposal is being replaced with a new information management system that could improve system. Outdoor recreation is a big economy for the state.

Graduate Student Council – Neil Williams

A full student council will be elected next month. The student needs survey was delivered and there are some issues to address about more connectivity, specifically with the online student presence.

Strategic Initiatives – Geoff Huntington (*absent*)**TallWood Design Institute** – Iain Macdonald (*Evan Schmidt substituting*)

Evan is now the outreach coordinator for TDI. Julianna left on September 28th for Andersen and is working with the Peavy and Emmerson buildings. Iain and Eric are working on staffing for two technical positions for the lab. Emmerson is scheduled to open Summer 2019. The contracts for equipment are moving forward. TDI is conducting west coast outreach with architects and government organizations. Connections to California re generating interest and there are other conferences across the world. Hosting meet ups in Portland has been very popular.

Marketing and Communications – Michael Collins

There are 180 new first year students, which is a 30% increase. We are up 3% as a college which is above other colleges. Michael feels like the inquiry stage is increasing. There is a one hour daily tour that focuses on ESS colleges. Michael will be briefing departments on website changes. The accreditation process will require that we post our graduate learning outcomes. Communications is focusing on internal communications and improving transparency as well as community building. There was a 40% open rate for College of Forestry week and a 15% click through. Homecoming is the 20th as well as the chili cook off. Callie will be focusing on research stories.

Research Forests – Steve Fitzgerald (*absent*)

Open Discussion after Updates

Individual units should be using mail chimp to track click through/ open rates, need to check with communications about using these tools. Are there state level efforts to get NIFA in Oregon? 15 other states have it.

The OSU budget is changing and graduate tuition is harder to get since the numbers are down. What does the future look like for funding? The University level feels like grants should cover it, and larger classes increase funding. The college doesn't get tuition dollars and hasn't for quite a few years. A fix to this problem is to pay more attention to strategic allocations for college funds. We are also building foundation level support proposals for endowment fellowships. The online programs are growing and if we had 50 more graduate students completing each year it would make a huge difference for generating revenue. Professional Master's programs that fit with our students' career goals will be the way to enhance funding. It would be good to communicate to faculty about strategies and concerns. Clarity in the college budget will also help.

The Computing Services user survey will need input for the fall term.

Emmerson lab should be set to open Summer 2019 and the foundation would like to do a big opening, so planning should start soon.

10:00 am **Flash Talk:** Kevin Lyons, FERM

10:15 am **Peavy Forest Science Center Update & Wayfinding Consultation-** Anthony S. Davis and Michael Collins

Anthony addressed the status of repairs and progress. The work crew are working ten hour days and on Saturdays. Panels are targeted for replacement and there is an engineering plan for removing them without taking out the entire structure. There is no move in date, but it will be sometime between November 2019 and February 2020. Roof and rain protection is imminent. There may be phased occupancy but the schedule is still unknown. Anthony presented on the FSC to OFIC and Jeff Hatten noted that it was positively received.

10:30 am **Topic of the Month: The Year Ahead** – Anthony S. Davis

Anthony adjusted the organizational chart/ administrative structure. This is meant to provide a good distribution of supervision and ability to provide feedback to all units. This should be sustainable for recruiting a new dean.

There has been preparation for the Dean's Search; a timeline and process is to come from the Provost. The Provost would like to get time with faculty, staff, students, and alumni/stakeholders to see what kind of leadership we are looking for. Having a unified college by search initiation is helpful. We need to sort out some of our differences in what we want in a dean. Development work needs to be a major part of the new dean's portfolio. When the Provost asks, please participate in the process and give your honest input.

Advice on the FERM DH search: a faculty meeting was held and we need better engagement by faculty to restructure the position and build a pool. Anthony met with the FERM faculty and gathered ideas. The idea of an associate department head (for FERM and FES) allows for distribution or work more efficiently and provides leadership opportunities for faculty. Could allow us to recruit someone who excels at most the job but also get support for other functions.

Could the college explore the rotating chair idea? Other departments do this across campus. This could be a test case for the college and we would like to see it explored. A modest administrative stipend versus full appointment could save funding. Stakeholders, however, want to see a stable face/personality so that could be an issue. It would require a strong office/administrative support to provide continuity. It would also require faculty to be more engaged in some administrative functions of the department that they currently don't seem to have an appetite for.

Elliot State Forest Advisory Committee briefing undertaken. There will be a special FEC meeting to discuss findings on October 30th at 11:00 am in Richardson Hall 107. A college wide invite is going out shortly, will be similar to the Blodgett discussion.

11:00 am **Adjourn**