



Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology
Minutes of the Department Meeting
February 4, 2014

Present: Drake, Garcia, Karasov, Kruger, Lorimer, Lutz, Miron, Nack, Pauli, Peery, Radeloff, Ribic, Rickenbach, Rissman, Rodock, Stanosz, Temple, Timme, Townsend, VanDeelen, Webster, Zuckerberg

Absent: Bowe, Gower, Mladenoff, Ozdogan, Pidgeon, Samuel

Bill Karasov (Chair) called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm in 216 Russell Labs.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES. Stanosz (Drake) moved to approve the minutes of the Dec. 2 department meeting. Motion approved.

REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Admin Team

Timme: A part-time financial specialist has been hired; the admin. hub is recruiting for the vice-Naunapper position; the admin. hub is interviewing candidates for the vice Moore position.

Webster: The financial specialist mentioned by Sheila is working Mondays, Wednesday, and Fridays. There are now two options for reimbursement—E-reimbursement and Guided Expense Tool (GET). GET is more intuitive.

Rodock: If any faculty are recruiting new graduate students, let her know. There are funds available to help cover expenses. If you have students doing independent study, make sure they are enrolled.

Other announcements.

Rickenbach: CALS has set up meetings in February devoted to the theme areas identified in the Strategic Plan. Input is welcome.

OLD BUSINESS

Search and Screen Committee update. On behalf of Gower, who was with one of the candidates, Karasov inquired whether the faculty would like to meet in the next week to discuss candidates. Response was positive and the meeting was set for Thursday, Feb. 13, 3:00 pm in 216 Russell Labs. Karasov will send out a reminder.

Development Committee.

Connor Center of Excellence proposals: In the absence of Bowe, Karasov reported that the

Connor family has chosen to fund a proposal submitted by Bowe and Stansoz on the topic of Red Oak cull.

Update on Drager-Monahan Fund. Rickenbach reported that Guries is working with Drager and the UW Foundation to finalize the MOU with wording that would allow maximum flexibility for use of the funds. This should be completed by March.

Update on priorities for future funding (from planning meeting in January). Karasov listed the top priority areas for funding based on comments made at the planning meeting in January. These areas are: summer camps, TA's and RA's, improvements to physical space, and undergraduate scholarships for forestry students.

Department Programs/Activities.

Post-seminar discussion sessions. Nack reported that following the department seminars, held Fridays 2-3 pm in 184 Russell Labs (first one is Feb. 21), the attendees will be invited to a discussion session from 3-5 in 216 Russell Labs where snacks and beverages will be served. There must be an official host each week who must complete an on-line course and make sure the group complies with university regulations.

Lunch room remodel plans. Nack reported that the committee has devised a plan for remodeling the area next to A228. These plans include counter and stools facing street, several small tables with chairs, new paint, and a new sink and appliances. Nack estimates the cost would be approximately \$6,000 using in-house staff.

Credit changes for Ph.D. degree. Rodock reported that credit changes similar to those recently approved for the Masters degree will also be required for the Ph.D. degree in both Forestry and Wildlife Ecology. Rodock distributed handouts for review and discussion.

Ad hoc committee on salary merit. Drake reported that the committee used the draft policy for the most recent Critical Compensation Fund allocation and it seemed to work well. The committee will present the policy for approval at the March department meeting.

Update on CALS position requests. Drake and Karasov reported that a draft 50/50 Extension/research Human dimensions position description was distributed for comment. Pros and cons of proceeding with the position request were discussed. The request is due at the Dean's office March 14.

NEW BUSINESS

New policy for undergraduate independent/directed study. Rodock described new policies related to undergraduate independent/directed study courses. Each department is charged with setting guidelines; i.e., a plan of study, for each undergraduate student registered for an independent study course. Faculty recommended a form that could be completed on-line. Rodock will work with the Curriculum Committee to prepare a draft form for approval.

Proposals for Instructional Lab Modernization 2014-15. On behalf of the space committee, VanDeelen reported that they received no proposals. However, he commented that Gower has some ideas for updating the computer lab in A120. Proposal deadline is March 7.

Plans for archival materials in Room 218. Temple described and requested comments on proposed plans for upgrading the display, moving the Schorger books to the UW Library System, using those shelves for FWE library books, and adding open space to the back of the room.

Dan Schmoldt possible affiliation with department. Karasov presented information about Dan Schmoldt—alumnus and benefactor for graduate travel awards—and his interest in having an affiliation with the department when he retires from his position in Washington DC. Comments were supportive of the department exploring possibly an adjunct faculty, affiliate faculty or honorary fellow appointment with the understanding that Schmoldt would teach a graduate seminar.

Adjourn. Drake (Rickenbach) moved to adjourn at 3:40 pm. Motion approved.