

Forestry Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Friday, August 19, 2011
8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Richardson Hall 115

Meeting facilitated by Steve Tesch

Members present: Roger Admiral, Eric Hansen, Ed Jensen, Thomas Maness, Randy Rosenberger, Steve Tesch, Hal Salwasser

Absences: Jim Johnson, Marv Pyles, Paul Doescher

Guests: Todd Bastian, Zak Hansen, Brent Klumph, Kathy Howell, Garrett Meigs, Diana Raper, Fred Kamke via Skype

Meeting Handouts:

- 1) 08-19-11 FEC Meeting Agenda – Steve Tesch
- 2) 07-22-11 FEC Meeting Draft Minutes – Steve Tesch
- 3) WSE Staffing Aspirations Brochure – Eric Hansen
- 4) College of Forestry – Graduate Student Computing Resources – Kathy Howell
- 5) Summary of Office Space Discussion and Recommendations – Randy Rosenberger

I. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

The July 22 meeting minutes were approved. Attendance list will be corrected.

II. Graduate Students Computing Support

Kathy Howell presented to the FEC some options for the computing support of the graduate students. A brief summary of the computing resources and current funding from the campus Technology Resource Fee, TRF, was distributed at the meeting. The Forestry Computing Committee, FCC, is looking at some virtual resources options for students to access remotely the software programs they need, either from the field, home, or from their desired space. FEC discussed the continuous desk space and computer camping issues. Garrett Meigs and Diana Raper, graduate students, attended the discussion and gave their insights about the graduate students' overall needs for desk and computing space. They appreciated to be part of the office space discussion.

The Space Committee will soon make some decisions about the College of Forestry offices and labs space. Kathy asked that the Forestry Computing Committee (FCC) be included in the discussion and decision related to undergraduate and graduate students computing lab space. The FCC has welcomed Garrett and Diana on their committee to represent the College of Forestry graduate students.

Action Item

The Department Heads will be meeting with their undergraduate students. Further discussion on departments' space need and information on number of students' supported accounts will be needed. Steve Tesch recommended that the FCC look at the summary of office space recommendations for graduate students done in 2008 to test the concepts described.

Kathy will meet with the FCC this summer. She asked for some names suggestion for undergraduate student representatives to join the FCC. Ed Jensen suggested sending out a call to undergraduate students at the beginning of the term for self nomination.

III. Murdock Foundation Proposal

Fred Kamke and a Colleague from the College of Engineering have been invited by the Foundation to prepare a proposal that would provide support for the acquisition of a large size piece of equipment that would be part of the new green building materials laboratory located in the Oak Creek Building. This is a collaborative project between the Research Office, the College of Forestry, College of Engineering, and Oregon Best. The proposal will require the College of Forestry to pledge a matching fund of \$50,000. FEC discussed the 50/50 split between both colleges and the allocation of the fund. Roger Admiral gave an update on the equipments purchased and left over funds over the last couple years. Both Colleges are equal partners. Fred explained how this acquisition will leverage with other grant opportunities and what the return on investment of this new and unique facility will do for the College.

Action Item

The College will figure out the funding source for the pledge. The Board of Visitors might want to contribute in this innovation project.

Decision

FEC was supportive of the College of Forestry's share.

IV. Update and Conversation with the Dean

- **Provost's New Investment**

Hal gave an update on the Provost's new investment generated from tuition growth into the statewide budget. Hal described the allocation of this fund among the ESS Division and the Provost's expectations to benefit the students. There may be some potential money to support new faculty hires. College of Forestry has less capacity to do that due to its current financial situation. Hal shared his thought on some other options for using this fund. More information on timeline will be clarified after the Provost's Council retreat.

- **Business Plan**

Hal will cycle back with Sabah the first week of September to share the 2-

paper document that he sent to the OFIC members and to discuss the outcome from the meeting that FEC had with Steve Shields. OFIC leaders would be interested in supporting the College on the Board of Higher Head or the President's Cabinet to help with political strategies. They would consider an increase in the harvest tax rate if they could be ensured that the College can provide the programs they would like to see and research cooperatives that would address their needs. Hal discussed the need for the harvest tax rate to cover three components, the education, research, and outreach. FEC discussed the importance of identifying the College's various constituents to make the connection to reach out to all constituents.

Action Item

Hal continues the conversation with the OFIC leaders about restructuring the harvest tax support, including the restructuring of the professional degrees to be more attractive to students, producing graduates that are more in line with the industry's need.

- **Faculty Hire Priorities**

Sabah sent out a memo announcing the priority positions approved for the four divisions with a statement that ESS positions were to be determined. The ESS Deans are in negotiation with the Provost over the allocation of resources for the 5 FTE and for partial appointments approval. The College of Forestry's proposed new positions are Managed Forest Soils Nutrition and Natural Resources Geotechnical Engineering. The Provost's message indicated that there might be another round of 30 new positions going to the three signature areas which would trigger a second set of 5 positions (i.e. energy chemist and invasive species ecologist).

- **OSU Foundation Updates**

OSU Foundation is working on the press release on the Ford gift to name the Dean's chair. Hal gave an update on the funding from the Provost's match.

V. CY' 12 Harvest Plans

The College Forests staff has been asked to identify a plan to netting \$2M for the College calendar 2012. Dave Lysne and Brent Klumph have been looking at alternatives and proposed their year 2012 harvest plan at Blodgett. The rationale for this harvest plan is that there have been some forest health and road system issues observed on the property. Steve Tesch wanted FEC to be mindful of the potential sale of the Blodgett property and the trade-off associated with a major harvest, about 200 acres. FEC discussed the market and the projection for the sale price per thousand for next spring. Brent Klumph gave an update on the current status of the work done and the contracted process with the principal. FEC discussed the timeline for bidding and locking prices and the amount of work left until March. Brent gave an update on the pole sale from last year.

Decision

FEC agreed to go ahead with the plan for the Blodgett harvest under the contingency of monitoring the global market to pull it off if not favorable.

VI. Other Topics

• **Funding for BoV Mentor-protégé for 2011-12**

Ed Jensen made some comments on the success of the combined BoV and SEEDS programs this year. David Zahler is in the process of collecting testimonials from both the mentors and protégés that he will be able to share soon. Ed gave an update on the outcomes and successful stories. This year, Ed is hoping that the request for proposals will go out to faculty in September and that the applications process for students be done in October. Ed shared his proposal for FEC's feedback on the allocation of another \$50,000 to fund new BoV mentor-protégés. FEC discussed the funding for SEEDS after June 2012. Alternative plans were to contact foundations, private donors, and agencies. Thomas Maness suggested the videotaping of some of the BoV mentor-protégé experiences for prospective students. Randy Rosenberger mentioned the partnership that the College has with state parks for students' paid internships. Randy will send Steve a brief description for inclusion in the Provost's Annual Academic report as an appendix.

Decision

FEC is in support for allocating \$25,000 up to \$50,000 depending on number of outstanding proposals.

• **Educators' Day Schedule**

FEC discussed Educators' Day presentations featuring the current work of endowed chairs.

Decision

Thomas Maness will approach John Sessions (Sustainable Bioenergy project) and Doug Maguire (Study Abroad). Eric Hansen will pair up with Doug Maguire on presenting his study abroad.

• **Gift Basket for University Day**

The list of items that will go into the University Day basket was distributed at the meeting for their information.

• **Announcements**

- 1) An update on the Forest Engineering Educators Summit will be scheduled for the next FEC meeting.
- 2) Next FEC Meeting is scheduled for September 23, 2011;
- 3) Annual Ring is scheduled for September 22, 2011;
- 4) Ed Jensen reminded Department Heads that the Center for Teaching and Learning is offering a one day workshop for GTAs the third week of September. This information will need to be forwarded to the GTAs.

Minutes were prepared by Nathalie Gitt 07-22-11 and revised by Steve Tesch.