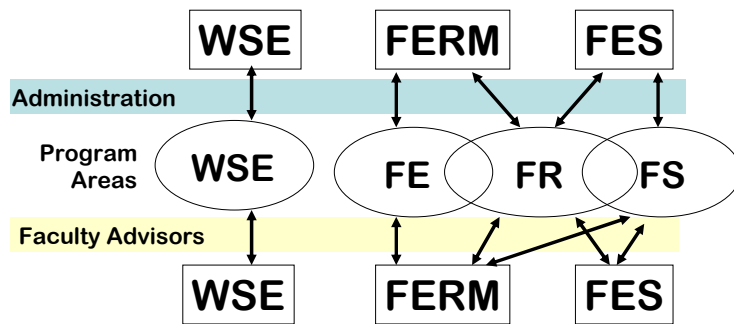


Current Situation



Graduate program coordination in CoF presented by Claire Montgomery

The purpose of this slide show is to INITIATE a discussion about the future of graduate program administration in the College of Forestry.

We are currently making decisions in a piecemeal fashion to address current operational needs.

I believe it would be useful to start thinking about where we want to end up so that today's decisions will be consistent with a desired end point.

What follows are a summary of what the current situation appears to me to be (qualified by the fact that I have incomplete information) and a list of options for the future. The purpose is to stimulate discussion.

Current situation administrative tasks

1. Admissions
 - students apply to “program areas” – web info?
 - administration of application process:
 - FE – FERM, FS – FES, WSE – WSE, FR – split by discipline
 - student is assigned a major professor
 - major prof’s “home” dept becomes student’s “home” dept
2. Fellowships, scholarships
 - by program area AND by department
 - 6 separate committees – FS, FR, FE, WSE, FERM, FES
3. Administration of program -- by home dept
 - program requirements by program area – committee for each?
 - signing off on programs and completed theses – dept heads
 - exit interviews – dept heads
 - anything else?

Options for the “end point”:

1. Maintain Program Areas administered by depts – Current Situation
 - Pros -- expedient -- gets job done with minimal further change, flexibility, student identity with program areas that reflect interests
 - Cons – confusion about the distinction between program areas and depts among both students and faculty
redundancies
gaming

Options for the “end point”:

2. 3 graduate programs aligned with new depts

- Pros – it’s what we’re used to,
it’s what the University is used to
- Cons – reinforces departmental alignments and neglects overlaps in faculty and program foci. students must decide where their interest will be best served -- e.g. by silviculturists in FERM or in FES...

Options for the “end point”:

3. Administer grad programs at the College Level

- Pros – students don’t have to identify potential advisors who might be in different departments, eliminates redundancies, may create administrative efficiencies, allows the most flexibility in defining “areas of concentration,” supports a college identity as opposed to department identities, the students seem to be moving in this direction with grad student council
- Cons – will require shifting of administrative and clerical tasks from depts to college, pushback from graduate school.

Options for the “end point”:

4. Hybrid of 2 and 3

- Administer admissions and scholarships/fellowships at college level
- Once a student has been assigned an advisor, move to department model
- Pros – again, students don’t have to find best potential advisors in different depts, eliminates redundancies in some responsibilities, may create administrative efficiencies, may reduce pushback from graduate school maintains current practices with regard to accountability for program quality and administration of teaching
- Cons – will require shifting of administrative and clerical tasks from depts to college, separates graduate advising process into two stages