Forestry Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 25, 2010
8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Richardson Hall 313

Meeting facilitated by Steve Tesch

List of Attendees:

Members present: Roger Admiral, Ed Jensen, Barbara Bond, Jim Johnson, Brenda McComb, Tom McLain, Steve Tesch, and Hal Salwasser

Members Absent: Thomas Maness and Eric Hansen

Guests: Claire Montgomery and John Bailey

Meeting Handouts:
1) 02-12-10 FEC Meeting Minutes
2) 02-24-10 Action Items Tracking List
3) Proposal for Revision to the OSU Bacc Core, 02-11-10
4) Environmental Synthesis Center Preliminary Proposal
5) Proposal to Create a School of Applied Economics, Version 02-04-10
6) Forestry and Forests in Bulgaria, Lecture poster

Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

One edit was requested by Brenda about her charge under the action items for the March 15 status report to submit to Steve Tesch. The sentence will be revised to read: Have discussion with COAS about Earth Systems undergraduate programs. The minutes from the February 12 FEC meeting were then approved.

I. Review Agenda and Status of Past Action Items

• Add Sam Sanders in the pool of potential nominees for the OSU AA Advisory Council potential member.

• Continuing Professional Education: Jim Johnson is going through a series of meetings. Jim will report at a future FEC meeting.

• The meeting with the Research Coop. Ad Hoc committee has been postponed for the March 19 FEC meeting.

• Research Office Start-up Proposals: Need proposals from the DHs. These are due this week with Rich. Brenda will get back to Steve.

• Thomas has resolved the software models internally. We will ask Thomas when he returns to give FEC a brief report.
II. Updates and Conversation with the Dean

The FEC devoted this time for an update on conversations that are going on internally and externally to help with the drafting of the budget reduction and realignment report, due March 15.

• March 9 Forum is postponed to an April date tbd; to be rescheduled after the March 15 report deadline.

• Last Provost’s Council included discussion on new IT governance structure – **details need to be worked out**.

• Library is initiating a campus-wide discussion about becoming a depository for data. **Kathy Howell will be meeting next week to discuss this issue.** Barbara Bond updated the FEC on the status of the existing FS Database. Discussed the need to train our students to publish their data and create their metadata as part of their obligation to science which is a standard in research.

• Communications and marketing update – None

• Legislature update – None

III. Proposed Bacc Core Changes – John Bailey

John was invited to give the FEC an update on the Faculty Senate conversation about the OSU Baccalaureate Core revision proposal. The Baccalaureate Core Ad Hoc Review Committee was charged by the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate to “improve the educational attainment and retention of undergraduate students at Oregon State University”. The proposal will be revised based on the feedback that will be collected over the next month and a half. The revision will be presented at the May Faculty Senate meeting and will be voted on in June. Committee discussed the various changes that will occur, the framework of the proposal, and gave John some feedback.

**Action Item**

John was invited back to future FEC meetings to follow-up as the conversations develop. He will work with Ed to gather the COF curriculum leaders with the COF senators for a college wide discussion.
IV. **Update on discussion of School of ESS – Brenda McComb**

Barb Bond and Brenda McComb participated in a meeting led by Nick Pisias. Nick was asked by Mark Abbott to help follow up on the concept of developing a College of Earth Sciences. This concept was presented at the forum on the divisional structure of Earth System Sciences. The concept was then presented to the Provost by the three ESS deans after the forum. Nick was asked to move the COAS/Geosciences discussion forward, including an undergrad component via potential involvement of Geosciences and possibly FES in the organizational structure. There is also a discussion underway about formation of an ESS Research Institute; a group of 8-10 people from the three colleges led by Mark Abbott are exploring how this might work. Another idea that is being discussed is a Faculty of ESS.

**Action Items:**
Discussions on School of ESS are continuing. The next meeting is scheduled for March 3rd.
Barbara Bond will share more information on the ESS Institute concept at the next FEC meeting.
For March 15 report, indicate that discussion of a School of ESS is ongoing.

V. **Update on Environmental Synthesis Center Proposal – Brenda McComb**

The synthesis center will foster synthetic, collaborative, cross disciplinary initiatives to understand and predict the complex interactions among ecological systems.
A core writing team have been meeting and providing written input regularly to gather the information needed for a pre-proposal and background information that could be incorporated into a full proposal if invited to submit one.

Cherri Pancake, CoE  
Brenda McComb, CoF  
Kate Lajtha, CoS/CAS  
Barb Bond, CoF  
Rick Colwell, COAS  
Susan Capalbo, CAS  
Phil Mote, COAS  
Lisa Gaines, INR  
Jim Johnson, CoF  
Tom Dietterich, CoE  
Bev Law, CoF  
Denise Lach, CLA
Anna Harding, HHS
Sue Carozza, HHS

Donn Forbes has been contracted by Rich Holdren to write the pre-proposal and if that is successful write the full proposal. A draft of a one-pager describing the Center was distributed. This is an example of cross divisional effort.

**Action Items:**
Work in progress, March 23 deadline to receive pre-proposal, July 11 for full proposal - Engage Sabah when pre-proposal is submitted to initiate conversation about potential OSU investment regardless of proposal outcome.

VI. **Update on Regional Climate Center Initiative – Brenda McComb**

Nate Mantua from UW has led several conference calls to propose that UW be the host institution for this regional climate center and has invited U of Idaho, OSU and more recently PSU and U of O into discussions as collaborators. Hal and Rich Holdren discussed with Dennis Hartmann the proposal to have OSU be the home institution and that discussion ended without a decision. The team will continue to meet to identify mutually supportive strengths to include in a proposal.

**Action Item:**
Hal needs talking points from Brenda to present to Congressional delegation next week in DC. Waiting for the RFP.

VII. **Update on discussion about Plant Sciences degrees – Brenda McComb**

The department heads of BPP, CSS and HORT were charged College of Agricultural Sciences administrators Larry Curtis and Cary Green on October 26, 2009 with developing a plan for a plant science undergraduate degree option with the College of Agricultural Science with possible ties to the College of Forestry. As Rangeland Ecology and Management shares many classes and student interests with the other three units, Mike Borman was invited to participate in conversations. Forest Ecosystems and Society has been consistently represented at meetings as well.

Currently there is just a discussion draft of a proposal, discussions are underway. Russ Karow will prepare a final report that will go to Sonny.
VIII. **Update on Transforming Wood Science & Technology Degree – Tom McLain**

Tom gave a presentation about the set of results compiled from the on-campus C2C group that was contracted to hold 4 focus group sessions with college freshmen and high school seniors. The purpose for this was to learn about current trends, students’ interests, needs, career aspirations and expectations, desired life style, how forestry was perceived and reactions about the forestry profession. Tom described the processes that were involved in these focus group sessions and gave a summary of the emerging plan from the report to rebrand the WST degree to “renewable materials and products.” The plan includes a number of changes and opportunities including refocusing recruiting materials. The focus will be on first and second year transfer students. There is much more work to be done on the curriculum. Category 1 proposal should be submitted by April.

**Action Items**

Tom will summarize these results at the spring FRL AC and Board of Visitors meetings.

IX. **Update on discussion about School of Applied Econ – Claire Montgomery**

Claire was invited to talk about the draft proposal of the School of Applied Economics in the Division of Earth Systems Science, which was initially drafted by Steve Buccola, AREC, Jo Albers, FES, and Bill Jaeger, AREC. Claire described the structure of the school, the goal and rational for the proposal. The intent for this proposal is to consolidate economics expertise in one place. Currently economists are spread across three divisions. A copy of the draft of the proposal was distributed. Members discussed some of the issues that this proposal raises such as pulling economists out of their college, curricular decisions, potential disintegration of interdisciplinary integration with FES and FERM, and control of faculty lines.

**Action Items:**

Need to take the proposal forward for discussion.
Hal, Sonny, and Mark will discuss what should go in the School.
Proposal should go into the March 15 report as a dialogue coming from the bottom up.
Talk to Susan Capalbo to rename the program.
Arrange a meeting with Hal and COF economists to discuss the proposal about the School of Applied Economics (Within the next month).
Norm Johnson, John Sessions, Jo Albers, Claire Montgomery, Randy Rosenberger, Thomas Maness, and Brenda McComb.
Conversation to focus on where it would make best sense for CoF to come out in response to this proposal before Hal has a conversation w/ESS Division Deans.

X. **Draft Budget Reduction and Realignment Report for March 15 – Steve Tesch**

Steve summarized the draft report to date and asked the DHs to provide information needed to finish the report.

XI. **Department Heads’ Plan for Alumni Awards**

Discussed the following options:

1) No alumni awards at all
2) Having a function that would be separate from student ceremony
3) Package alumni awards with Student Awards ceremony
4) Preference to option 3

Limit to 2-3 alumni awards (could be 1 per department and 1 could be a speaker, i.e. Koshare’s presentation.)
Each department will put forward the nominations.
FET or FEC will make the decision on the final selection.
Need instructions from Dean for nominating these individuals.

**Action Items:**
Departments are charged to submit nominations as soon as possible

XII. **Department Heads’ Plan for Fernhopper Day**

The Department Heads met to discuss this spring’s Fernhopper program. They proposed that we move from 4 to 3 concurrent sessions. We will need 3 new topics. The goals for this event are to make connections with alums and connect them with what is currently going on at the College and to expose parents and students who will be on campus for Mom’s weekend. Topics need to be broad and college focused.

The proposed program is:
- Dean’s welcome and Introductory Comments about the College
- Trophic Cascade Movie and/or Bill Ripple, Bob Beschta, Cristina Eisenberg presentations
- Fire 101 – John Bailey
- Wood magic on “renewable materials magic” – Use different station from last year, TBA
- Tree identification Campus Tour– Ed Jensen

Action Items:
Department Heads will make requests of faculty and refine the program. Need advertisement ready for Mom’s Week-end calendar by end of March.
OSWA is having their 50th anniversary the Friday and Saturday that week. Jim will contact OSWA to let them know that OSU CoF will be having their Fernhopper every year that week-end to avoid future conflicts.

XIII. Report from the Extension Faculty Advisory Panel for Organizational Transformation – Jim Johnson

Jim gave the FEC an update on the Extension conversation from yesterday’s Webinar about the Extension Plan, version II. The Panel did a tremendous job of digesting much feedback to prepare a comprehensive document outlining many potential options for organizational changes for the Oregon Extension Service. The report will be presented to the Extension Cabinet on March 8, and Director Scott Reed will submit his report to the Provost on March 15. The materials can be viewed at: http://extension.oregonstate.edu/internal/organizational-transformation

Action Items:
Jim will prepare a summary of his recommendations that he will email this afternoon to FEC members. Ed will be representing Hal at next week’s meeting. Jim will be briefing Ed to prep him for this meeting tomorrow. Hal will call Scott on Friday. Scott will meet with the Deans next week. The Cabinet will meet on March 8 for a synthesis that will go to Scott for his March 15 report.

XIV. Others

• Forests and Forestry in Bulgaria Seminar - Dr. Kostov (March 4th) – Nathalie Gitt

The schedule for Dr. Kostov is in progress. He will be touring the College Forests from 8:30 am – 11:00 am. Dave Lysne and Peter Kitin will be hosting the tour. At 11:00, he will be meeting with Jim Johnson. He will do a presentation at noon in RH 107 about Forestry and
Forests in Bulgaria. At 1:00 pm he will be meeting with several faculty members for discussion. He will then attend the Starker Lecture and all the remaining activities. Tom McLain suggested that we prepare a gift from OSU CoF to send him home with.

• Post Dean’s Award - Nomination letters distribution.

The issue was whether or not to share the nomination letters from the nominators with the nominees. The FEC felt that we needed to give this as an option for next year.

Action Items:
This year, Dean’s office will follow-up with nominators to ask for their permission to do so. The nominees who did not receive an award will get a note from the dean for acknowledgement. Next year we will include an option that asks nominators to indicate if their letters can be shared with the nominees.

• On Monday, there will be an international fellow from the World Forestry Institute to do a seminar. The new fellow is Sue Baker, a PhD from Australia, who will be here for one year starting in January. She is here to work on variable retention and biodiversity. She will want to connect with some of our faculty who have expertise in this area.

Minutes submitted by Nathalie Gitt
Minutes revised by Steve Tesch
FEC Website: http://www.cof.orst.edu/cof/admin/execom/index.php