



Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology
Minutes of the December 2, 2013 Department Meeting

Present: Allison, Berkelman, Bowe, Carpenter, Drake, Garcia, Gunther, Karasov, Kruger, Lorimer, Lutz, Miron, Mladenoff, Nack, Ozdogan, Pauli, Peery, Pidgeon, Radeloff, Ribic, Rickenbach, Rissman, Rodock, Samuel, Stanosz, Townsend, Timme, Webster
Absent: Gower, Van Deelen, Zuckerberg

Bill Karasov (Chair) called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm in 216 Russell Labs.

Approval of minutes from Nov. 4, 2013

MOTION: Drake (Rickenbach) moved to approve the minutes from the November 4, 2013 department meeting. Motion carried.

Reports and Announcements

Drake: Scott Craven is scheduled to have heart surgery on Dec. 3.

Timme: Provided information about requests for the Critical Compensation Fund to be discussed in more detail later in the meeting.

Webster: Thanked everyone for their cooperation turning receipts in early last week and reminded everyone of the Hatch Capital Expenditures deadline (requests to Karasov by Dec. 18).

Rodock: If recruiting graduate students for summer or fall, get in touch with her. She has received a list of students eligible for an Advanced Opportunity Fellowship. Reminded faculty to turn in 990 and independent study grade reports.

Gunther: Distributed a handout of IT Updates for December. Also mentioned that Dixie Lang has moved to 147 on first floor and Hoklan is moving to 476.

Karasov: Temple and Meine are teaching a Leopold seminar (FWE 961) in the spring semester. Spread the word among graduate students.

Temple is seeking a TA to assist with FWE 110 (Living with Wildlife—Animals, Habitats, and Human Interactions) for Spring Semester 2014.

Another TA-ship is available for FWE 360 (Extinction of Species) for Summer 2014.

Hatch and McIntire-Stennis Capital Exercise: Requests due to Karasov by Dec. 18.

An all college meeting is scheduled for Dec. 17, 3 pm at Union South.

Old Business

Search and Screen Committee update. Bowe reported that they have received 18 applications for the forest economics and risk management position. Application deadline is Dec. 2.

Newsletter mailings. Karasov met with representatives of the UW Foundation. They recommend the department continue to mail hard copies of the newsletter. Send Miron addresses to be added to the database.

FWE Strategic Planning. The department's Strategic Planning Meeting is scheduled for Jan. 16, 2014. Karasov requested topics to discuss, such as future position requests, fundraising plans, and undergraduate or graduate student program initiatives.

CALS position requests. CALS will likely have one or two positions available to be filled in the next year. The procedure for submitting requests is not yet final. FWE plans to submit a request to fill the post-Craven position (Wildlife human dimensions).

New Business

New course/curriculum proposals

FWE672: Mladenoff described the proposed new course 672 Historical Ecology. The new course proposal was distributed via email prior to the meeting.

MOTION: The Curriculum Committee moved to create the new course 672 Historical Ecology. Motion approved.

FWE439: The New Course Proposal for 439 US Environmental Policy and Governance was distributed via email prior to the meeting. Rissman commented on the possible overlap with 515 Renewable Resources Policy. There was discussion about the extent of the overlap.

MOTION: Stanosz (Rickenbach) moved to not approve the new course proposal for 439 but recommended continuing a discussion about changes to the course that would address the content overlap. Motion approved.

Wildlife Ecology MS Certification

Rodock distributed the proposed new Wildlife Ecology MS Certification form and described changes in requirements for the degree.

MOTION: Drake (Lutz) moved to approve the new Wildlife Ecology MS Certification Form. Motion approved.

Rodock also distributed a summary of CALS majors with probationary status and Forest Science and Wildlife Ecology undergraduate advising numbers for possible further discussion at a future time.

Department Programs/Activities

On behalf of the Ad Hoc Committee on Departmental Activities, Nack reported that the committee suggests two changes: 1) Offer snacks/alcohol after the FWE Friday seminar rather than before to allow time for people to socialize; 2) Remodel the "lunch room" space next to A228 to make it more inviting as a place to gather and interact. The committee will put together a proposal and budget. The committee welcomes input related to these proposed changes.

Proposed changes to Biological Aspects of Conservation degree program

Karasov announced that the BAC program is considering changing its name to Conservation Biology. Several people commented. Karasov will keep the department informed. He also announced a new professional master's program in Environmental Conservation in the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies.

Nomination of Dr. Estella Leopold for an Honorary Degree

Karasov asked for comments on a proposal to nominate Estella Leopold for an honorary degree. Comments during brief discussion were supportive of the effort.

Compensation exercises at UW-Madison

Karasov asked for input in how to allocate funds from the Critical Compensation Fund exercise. Increases must be spread over categories of employees—faculty, academic staff, and classified staff. Possible ways to handle allocation of the funds are to do a merit exercise or leave to the chair's discretion. Recommendations are due to CALS by Jan. 31, 2014.

MOTION: Drake (Radeloff) moved to form an ad hoc committee to formulate a plan for distributing funds from the Critical Compensation Fund. This plan could be discussed at the Strategic Planning Meeting on Jan. 16. Motion approved.

Karasov asked Drake for his assistance in selecting ad hoc committee members.

Adjourn. Lutz (Drake) moved to adjourn at 2:35 pm. Motion carried.