



Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology
Minutes of the Department Meeting
October 6, 2014

Present: Allison, Berkelman, Bowe, Drake, Garcia, Lorimer, Lutz, Miron, Mladenoff, Ozdogan, Pauli, Peery, Radeloff, Ribic, Rickenbach, Rissman, Rodock, Townsend, Webster, Zuckerberg

Absent: Gower, Karasov, Kruger, Pidgeon, Samuel, Stanosz, Van Deelen

1. Welcome.

Mark Rickenbach (Associate Chair) called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm in 216 Russell Labs.

2. Introduce new graduate student reps. Matt Garcia announced that he and Jessica Gorzo would continue as graduate student reps. New representatives this year are Diana Guzmán Colón, Gavin Jones, Catalina Munteanu, and Ricardo Rivera.

3. Review agenda. No changes or additions were suggested.

4. Approval of minutes. Mladenoff (Ozdogan) moved to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2014 department meeting. Motion carried.

5. Reports and announcements

a. Administrative support:

Webster: An email was sent to faculty regarding fiscal year closeout policies for Hatch and McIntire-Stennis accounts. Justification is required for purchases and fund transfers.

Rodock: Sara sent an email about summer session funds; make sure Laurie B. knows you are teaching a summer session course so it is included in the timetable. Students enrolling in 299, 399 or 699 must do so by Oct. 31. If you are bringing in a new student spring semester or recruiting for fall semester 2015, let Sara know.

b. Grad student professional development monthly seminar pilot (Rickenbach): Based on responses to an email survey by Rickenbach, three professional development seminars will be presented. They should be beneficial to students on both academic and non-academic career tracks. Rickenbach will work with graduate student reps and staff to gather relevant materials to include in the seminars.

c. Fall Department newsletter-Call for articles: Miron asked for news feature and research capsule topics to include in the next newsletter to be published later this fall. An email will also be sent requesting news.

6. New business

a. CALS budget exercise: CALS has asked departments to model how they would handle a 2, 4 or 6% reduction in their budgets. However, Rickenbach noted that there are still pieces of information missing that will play into making a decision. No action was taken.

b. CALS International Programs Report (discussion and comment). Information on rebuilding CALS International Program was distributed via email prior to the meeting. There is discussion in CALS about returning the program to its previous level where research is a prominent component of the program. Rickenbach requested comments on these possible changes. Response from faculty was lukewarm with questions arising about the costs, research focus, and return on investment.

c. Society for Conservation Biology and related topics. Radeloff announced that a state chapter of the organization currently has about 80 members. Members are from NGO's, agencies, campus staff and students and other individuals interested in conservation biology. The July 2016 national meeting of the organization will be held in Madison. Radeloff requested feedback on the possibility of the state chapter holding a Symposium for Conservation Biology in Wisconsin on the same day as the Leopold Lecture, with the symposium perhaps held in the morning and the Leopold Lecture in the afternoon. Several people offered comments in support of the general concept.

Adjourn. Drake (Ozdogan) moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:34 pm. Motion carried.