



**Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology**  
Minutes of the Department Faculty Meeting  
February 14, 2018

**Present:** Berkelman, Cherwin, Cole, Erker, Gunther, Johnston, Karasov, Kruger, Lutz, Mladenoff, Nack, Pauli, Pidgeon, Radenoff, Ribic, Rickenbach, Rissman, Rodock, Stanosz, Townsend, Van Deelen, Zuckerberg

Meeting called to order by Rickenbach (Chair) 12:00 pm in A216 Russell.

1. Welcome
2. **Approval of January meeting minutes** – Karasov/Berkelman moved/seconded, unanimously approved.
3. **Reports and announcements**

Cole reported that the campus pest control person will be setting traps and disks throughout the building in another week to deal with the roach infestation. Also, he was informed that there is a mice issue in the basement and he will address that as well. The HVAC project has started on the 4th floor and is already going much faster than the 3rd floor project. Gunther reported that the 4th floor computer lab will be closed for some of the HVAC construction and that some computers and the copier/printer will be moved to room 284 temporarily sometime this week.

**Chair Report- Rickenbach**

Congratulations to Zach Peery for receiving a Vilas Mid-Career Investigator Award. At the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference earlier this year, three awards included the Department: The Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society won the Midwest Region “best chapter” award; Jamie Nack won the Don Rusch Memorial Award, and Christine Anhalt-Depies received the Aldo Leopold Memorial Graduate Scholarship. D2L and Moodle are going away as of June 1st and you should have received an email from campus about this. Patty McManus and Plant Pathology Faculty will be sending a memo to F&W Ecology and Entomology faculty asking if they can partner with both departments in the CALS redesign project. Agronomy and Horticulture were potential partners for Plant Pathology but they have decided that they would rather stay with F&W Ecology and Entomology.

4. **Old Business**

4.1 **Forest Ecology Faculty Search -**

2 candidates will be coming in for interviews next week. Kerwin passed out a sign up sheet to faculty to be added to the schedule for individual meetings with candidates. Mark thanked Karie Cherwin and Laurie Ballentine for their help with travel logistics and scheduling for all the candidates. The next 2 candidates will be coming in the following week. There was some discussion about when faculty should have the chance to discuss all the candidates after their interviews. It was decided that a meeting on Friday, March 3rd at 3:00 pm would be conducive to a more timely offer going out. That meeting will be held in A216.

4.2 **TA Allocations**

There were requests for TA allocations for 6 classes: 110, 306, 550, 551, and 360.  
Four will be paid for by CALS and 1 from F&WE.

Newest Senator: Craig Johnston

**4.3 Thanks to Craig Johnston for agreeing to serve as F&WE senator.**

**4.4 Mission, vision, core values (document attached)**

Discussion ensued about the document with only a few minor revisions proposed.

Karasov made a motion to adopt the mission, vision, core values document with minor revisions. Pidgeon seconded. Unanimously passed.

**5. New Business**

**5.1 Interns as sub-contractors**

The DNR has field intern positions posted as subcontractors. In the past, these hires had been direct. The issue with being hired as a subcontractor is that the employee is not covered under the DNR's insurance/benefits and the person is responsible for paying their own taxes on income. It was decided that Rickenbach would write a letter to the DNR voicing our concerns. Nack pointed out that this may just be an error in the job posting and Rickenbach will clarify this with the DNR as well.

Stanosz shared that the Wisconsin mill tax will no longer go to supporting state libraries.

**5.2 Merit Review**

Kruger, Radenoff, Van Deelen, Zuckerberg, Rissman are the members of the merit review committee. The committee will meet in March to discuss

**5.3 Annual Meeting with the Deans**

Rickenbach's meeting will occur next Friday (Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>). At this meeting, the progress of assistant professors will be discussed. The CALS redesign plans will also be discussed and they have asked for specific questions from Rickenbach. His questions include "who are our partners?", "what incentives exist for departments to make changes?", and "has there been any thought about a home for Ecology on Campus?"

Rickenbach also mentioned the summer school teaching and how do we work in an environment where there are both a carrot and a stick for class offering increases?

Another point that Rickenbach will discuss is what diversity funding is available for potential hires in F&WE? Other discussion points – DNR, MOUs, and COOP unit.

Move to Adjourn (Rissman), Seconded by Berkelman, Unanimous agreement. Adjourned at 12:29 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Donna Cole