

UF Water Institute
Faculty Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2010, Wednesday, 11:30 – 1:00

Attended by: Jim Jones, Ramesh Reddy, Jon Martin, Jim Jawitz, Mike Annable, Christine Overdevest, Tatiana Borisova, Tom Frazer, Wendy Graham, Lisette Staal

Discussion items:

- 1) Update regarding the Climate Institute and its relationship with the Water Institute - Jim Jones shared recent activities related to the establishment of a Climate Institute. He and Wendy have met with Win Phillips and are discussing the potential synergies of co-location and shared resources. Jim Jones received \$250,000 planning grant from RGP for developing Climate –related proposals. The Climate Institute is a joint effort with FSU. FAC suggested meetings with CLAS and Engineering Deans. One item for consideration is a proposal for building for co-location. Would need to identify appropriate funding opportunities. One suggestion was to have a joint meeting with Water Institute, Climate Institute and Deans. Might also touch base with Les Thiele about Sustainability Initiative.
- 2) Update regarding IGERT institutionalization proposal -The proposal that was put together by Mark, Sandra and Wendy was circulated to FAC earlier, and a total of 14 people endorsed the proposal. It has been presented to the Provost and Vice President for Research and they suggested now to approach the Deans. Mark is currently out of the country so Sandra/Wendy need to decide on next step.
- 3) Request for help in updating Water Institute research page - Wendy shared the newly designed version of the WI Research webpage. The new design will reflect projects identified by current thrust areas, different ecosystems, and WI project classification. Initial design was build around the Springs Program and it is mostly populated (although still pending some information from faculty). Now WI would like to broaden it to the projects of the FAC members, and will later expand to those engaged in the PIF and beyond. Information on projects is currently pulled from the DSR database based on project ID. Only projects through DSR or WI with budgets are included. There will be quarterly updates and we recognize that maintenance is an important issue. Some suggestions were offered by FAC:
 - Should highlight /link project to persons page
 - Consider adding urban ecosystem/built environment classification
 - What about agriculture? Where does agriculture fit
 - Consider Initiatives rather than Ecosystems as means of classifying
 - Suggested adding a Watershed button (instead of rivers)
 - Consider changing Ecosystems to Aquatic Ecosystems (wetlands people may have problem with this)
- 4) Discussion regarding establishment of an External Advisory Board - The next year is Year 5 of the WI and Wendy suggest the possibility of an external review. Rather than an “advisory board” she may be looking at a review team that may have to be funded. This topic will be addressed more fully at a later meeting.
- 5) Elections for FAC membership - Tom Frazer is the incoming Chair of the FAC. Dorota Haman is finishing up her term. Several others are finishing up terms and a new election is needed. Lisette Staal will work with Tom Frazer in moving forward with nomination and election process.