

WI FAC MEETING Notes

June 24, 2010, Thursday, 11:30 – 1:30

570 Weil Hall, WI Conference Room

Attended by: Tom Frazer, Chris McCarty, Tatiana Borisova, Ramesh Reddy, Jon Martin, Martha Monroe -- WI Staff: Wendy Graham, Kathleen McKee, Lisette Staal

1. **WI Distinguished Scholar Seminar Series update**

Wendy Graham shared the list of suggested Speakers submitted by WI Faculty. A total of 6-8 speakers will be invited. Additional suggestions for speakers were made by the FAC. Ramesh Reddy will recommend a couple of potential speakers to speak on topic of new EPA Numeric Nutrient Criteria

2. **WI Web Research Page update.**

Several FAC members have provided write-ups of topic and ecosystem areas for the web, and the Website has been updated. The following are still pending:

- Wetlands: Ramesh Reddy
- Watersheds: Wendy Graham
- Aquifers: Mike Annable

WI will send a form for each project to each PI in order to help in providing detailed information for each of the PROJECTS currently listed on the web.

3. **WI Fellows Program – status and timeline update**

The MOU was sent to the Deans for signatures following the last FAC meeting. Dr. Barrick (College of Agriculture and Life Sciences) has signed and returned it. Wendy is meeting this afternoon with Dr. Paul D'anieri and Alan Dorsey (College of Liberal Arts and Sciences). She met with Dr. Cammy Abernathy (Dean of Engineering) who indicated that the decision would be made by Department Chairs. Wendy and Tom Frazer plan to meet with Paul Chadik/ EES and Kirk Hatfield/CCE.

Wendy noted potential for a proposal to PROGRESS ENERGY for additional support. One idea is to propose a Research fund for the WI Fellows that will support integrated activities and research expenses. One idea suggested was to include a student managed research proposal process for awarding funds- Ramesh Reddy mentioned a model for consideration.

Timeline – Fall 2011 first cohort

- Get all Colleges signed on to program
- Develop RFP
- Solicit RFP for 2011 start

Additional comments: Define the themes to be broad enough that all the students in a cohort could be working on research that is linked in some way. Consider including potential for

“affiliate students” – those that are not funded through the fellowship, but might participate in some of the cohort activities.

Wendy shared that the UF WI staff had met with a focus group of IGERT students and received very helpful input and comments that will be useful in developing RFP and plans for program.

4. **5-year review – DISCUSSION** - Win Phillips will be conducting a 5-year review of the Water Institute and has asked Wendy Graham for input on what a review might look like and what it should look at. FAC discussion to help develop a process to suggest to Win Phillips. For background - May 2010 annual report, [WI TASK FORCE REPORT](#) and the [WI STRATEGIC PLAN](#)

Wendy shared her discussion with Win Phillips and his request for input on conducting a 5-year review of the WI. SeaGrant will undergo a review in September, and Karl Havens emailed details about the structure of that review. Wildlife Ecology and Conservation also recently underwent a review and Tom Frazer shared his perspective the process and documentation as an example. Tom Frazer facilitated the FAC discussion which focused on:

- **What should a review team look like** (how big, composition, and actual suggested members). FAC made suggestions on potential members for a review team of no more than 5).
- **What materials should be provided to a review team**
Develop a prospectus/overview for the review team that include important documents and information for reference.
- **What should the task for the review team be** in order to help us see what we do well, what not so well, and to provide recommendations for the future.
 - Is the WI accomplishing what it was created to do (are the Task Force Report/Strategic Plan valuable documents, if so are they being fulfilled)?
 - What types of activities (events, proposals, projects) are happening that wouldn't otherwise be happening?
 - How is WI adding value to UF?
 - Is the WI effectively managing and leveraging resources?
 - Is the WI effectively engaging a diverse group of faculty and graduate students?
 - Is the WI effectively engaging external stakeholders?
 - What is the value of the WI to the State of Florida?
 - Is the Water Institute having an impact at the National level?
 - Should UF continue to invest in the WI?
 - What should the WI be doing in the future?
- **What should the schedule be to implement the review-**
 1. WI Suggests a review team and process to VP Win Phillips
 2. VP Win Phillips Appoints and Charges the review team
 3. WI Prepares prospectus/overview document
 4. Schedule meetings (one day if possible)

Sample meeting Schedule –
AM

- i. Meet with WI Director and WI Staff
- ii. Meet with Faculty Advisory Committee
- iii. Meet with Chair/Directors (suggested list)
 - Biology – Alice Harmer
 - FRED – Ray Huffaker
 - Geology – Mike Perfit
 - Agricultural biological Engineering – Dorota Haman
 - Soil and water Science – Ramesh Reddy
 - EES/ Paul Chadik
 - CCE –Kirk Hatfield
 - Geography – Peter Waylen
 - WEC – John Hayes
 - SFRC – Tim White
 - EPI – Glen Morris
 - Design Construction – Peggy Carr
 - Anthropology- Alan Burns
 - Sociology – Connie Shehan

Lunch

PM

- iv. Meet with External partners
- v. Meet with Grad Students
- vi. Meet with WI Project Faculty (PIFs, WI externally funded projects etc)

3:00 pm -- Review team discussion and development of recommendations

Output would include summary report of findings including recommendations for future. This document, along with the prospectus document prepared for the Review team will provide a good base for next step in updating strategic plan.

Process should be complete by the end of the Fall semester 2010.

Actions - WI will draft a response to VP Win Phillips with suggested process and team – Wendy to get back to Win by the end of June.

5. Other – no other topics were raised during this part of the meeting.

Meeting Adjourned – 1:20 PM