

MEETING SUMMARY
Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC)
UF Water Institute
Wednesday, September 16, 2015
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM
McCarty Hall D - Room 1031A

Red text = action items

FAC attending: Matt Cohen (Chair), Mary Jane Angelo, Treavor Boyer, Tracy Irani, Jim Jawitz, Jon Martin, Sandra Russo, Arnoldo Valle-Levinson

FAC not attending: Michael Annable, Mark Clark, Peter Frederick, David Kaplan, Kati Migliaccio, Liz Sreaton, Thomas Waltzek

WI staff attending: Tom Frazer (Acting Director), Lisette Staal, Carol Lippincott

Acting Director's Update

Dr. Wendy Graham, WI Director, is serving as a Program Director in the Hydrologic Sciences Program at NSF in Arlington, VA until August 2016.

WI Symposium – Feb. 16-17, 2016

Plenary Speakers

- Keynote plenary speaker will be Jay Famiglietti.
- **FAC** asked to suggest additional plenary speakers, who will also serve on a closing plenary panel.

Panels and Special Sessions

- **FAC** asked to encourage submission of abstracts and consider organizing panels or special sessions.
- Staff has met with the Symposium Steering Committee and developed 3 themes and topics within each theme.
- **Staff** will send to FAC a list of suggested topics for panels and special sessions
- **FAC** will provide additional topics for panels and special sessions, before next week's second call for abstracts.
- **Tom** will meet with Mary Jane Angelo (Sept. 23rd) and Sandra Russo (at earliest convenience) to discuss their suggestions for a session focused on the new fields of disaster law and/or tourism disaster management.

WI Graduate Fellows Program (WIGF)

- Considered a flagship program for the Water Institute
- Deans funded first 3 cohorts starting in 2011, which are nearly done or in progress.
- After discussion of merits, FAC agreed that the WIGF program adds value especially in terms of multidisciplinary collaboration that would otherwise not happen, stimulates external funding, and outlasts the original WIGF cohort.
- **Tom Frazer, Matt Cohen (FAC Chair), and one or more of the WIGF PIs (Mark Brown, Jon**

Martin, David Kaplan) will meet with Deans this fall to request Fellowships for an additional 3 cohorts. Wendy Graham will also participate if she is able.

WIGF Program Evaluation

- **Staff** will look at WIGF evaluations for data and testimonials useful for meetings with Deans.
- **Staff** will also explore other metrics that provide insight into the value of interdisciplinary academic programs, e.g., committee member composition, network analysis, etc.
- **Staff** will consider revising evaluation process to focus on impacts, gathering testimonials data that resonate with the Deans' success metrics (# students, # of external funding proposals, amount of external funding, time to degree, graduation rates, placement after graduation).

WIGF Selection Process

- **FAC and staff** will consider revising the WIGF selection process, including possibility of simplifying the process, having pre-defined themes, using external reviewers, enabling participation of law students, advertising more broadly throughout UF.

Next FAC Meeting

Likely in November, 2015.