

February 15, 2007

Dear Water Institute Faculty:

Lots of things are happening in the Water Institute... I hope each of you are a part of at least some of them! Here are a few highlights, for more information check out our website (www.waterinstitute.ufl.edu).

- The Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC) meets on the first Tuesday of each month. Three meetings have already been held, lots of stimulating discussions have taken place and good recommendations made. Check out the FAC membership, charter and meeting minutes at <http://www.waterinstitute.ufl.edu/fabcontact.html>
- Water Institute Program Initiation Fund Proposals have been received and reviews are under way. Awards will be made by March 1, 2007
- We have a variety of Water Institute projects already funded and many proposals submitted. See <http://waterinstitute.ufl.edu/research.html> for details.
- The FAC has established a Project Classification policy for the Water Institute. There are three categories of projects that depend on how involved the Water Institute was in the project development. We believe these guidelines will lead to great visibility for all Water Institute faculty projects, and that they apportion credit in an equitable way. See a copy of the guidelines at <http://waterinstitute.ufl.edu/documentsupdates.html>
- To supplement the faculty database on our website, we will be adding a web-accessible searchable database for all externally funded water-related projects that Water Institute faculty are leading. We really believe this will be very useful for promoting Water Institute Faculty programs to both upper UF Administration and outside stakeholders. We have obtained a complete list of all projects funded to WI faculty over the past five years, and these projects total over \$110,000,000! If we can get this information out and publicized good things will definitely follow. Soon you will each be receiving an email from us asking
 - Can we include each of your projects in the database?
 - Can you supply some additional details i.e., project abstract, names of co-PIs, project website URL, project publication citations?

Note that you do not have to supply all these additional details for the project to be included in the database. Please respond quickly to the email when you get it so we can get this database published!

▪ We are in the beginnings of establishing a regular monthly seminar series. Our next speaker will be Dr. Michael McClain who will discuss the USAID Global Water for Sustainability Program and how UF may get involved. The seminar is scheduled for March 8th 2007. See <http://waterinstitute.ufl.edu/mcclainseminar.html> for details.

▪ The First Water Institute Symposium is being planned for February 2008. Thanks to Tom Ankerson, Joe Delfino, Ruth Francis Floyd, Ramesh Reddy, Bron Taylor, Les Thiele, and Vicky Will for agreeing to serve on the organizing committee. We will keep you updated as plans develop.

▪ Finally... We are beginning the process of interviewing for a third research coordinator. Once this person is hired we will begin to organize faculty workgroups around the Water Institute thrust areas.

Well... That's about it for now!

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wendy D. Graham". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Wendy Graham