

**Department of Earth and Space
Sciences Meeting of the Faculty
Friday, 5/3/24, 2:30 pm in JHN 111**

OPEN MINUTES

Ends 3:15 sharp.

**All times are maximum allotted
and include any discussion.**

[In Attendance: Bergantz, Buick, Cantine, Catling, Christianson, Crider, Duvall, Huntington, Koutnik, Lipovsky, Mehra, Muth, Roe, Schmidt, Steig, Stone, Teng, Walters, Waddington, Windebreener. Guests: Bernard-Kingsley, Campese, Caton, Dakins, Ledeczi, Wilbur, Aikin, Gates, Paulson, group of 7 undergrads]

Open Session Start: 2:30 PM

Announcements

- Undergraduate curriculum (Group of undergraduate students; 5-10 minutes)
 - The group of undergraduates discussed concerns regarding the curriculum including a perceived lack of diverse classes being offered or offered inconsistently. They also discussed feeling unprepared for jobs and that the curriculum is more structured for research opportunities than applied geoscience opportunities.
 - Undergraduate representatives are always welcome to join the curriculum committee (invitation/information has been sent out over email), and the 23-24 committee currently has two student representatives on it. Further discussion is both offered and being planned.
- Reminder Awards Ceremony and Reception **Friday May 10 at 3:30 PM** (1min)
- The special exec session on hiring priorities will take place on **Friday June 7 at 2:30 PM in JHN 175**. Zoom is available if needed. (1 min)
- ASE strike is announced for May 14th.
 - Please note that it is illegal to ask students if they are striking, or attempting to track who is participating in the strike.
- Luan Haywood and Nicole are organizing a summer field trip series and have forwarded a proposal forwarded to the Chair. First proposed field trip week of June 17, Darrel Cowan leading.

Standing Committees Announcements

- **Graduate Program (Teng) - update on GSAR/GPC-GPA-graduate student discussion (5 minutes)**
 - Plan to hold the graduate/GPC tea time once a quarter if not more often. Everyone is welcome to attend and each meeting will have an agenda with specific topics to focus on.
 - GSAR due next Wednesday. Advisors and students please communicate with each other on this. Noell and Fangzhen will circulate a couple examples. Later discussion on switching the GSAR with IDP (Kate has a great template for this).

- **Admissions (Huntington) - update (5 minutes)**
 - 198 applied; 18 admitted (3 MS, 15 PhD); 1 accepted UW but affiliated with Oceanography not ESS
 - Expect ESS will have 10 incoming grad students (9 accepted this year's offers, 1 accepted last year but deferred; 2 MS and 8 PhD, all with identified project/topic and solid RA/Fellowship support)
 - Next year, application deadline will be December 1, though applications can still be submitted after that date
 - Show holistic admissions rubric from Caltech that we piloted this year, briefly discuss adopting it for ESS (no vote requested today)
 - Email Kate with the subject "Admissions: Rubric" with ideas/questions/concerns. **Kate will share these slides with the grad students.**

- **College Council Representative (Schmidt) - update (3 minutes)**
 - Has projected faculty salary increases (4%) combination of merit, COL, etc. 1% by provost and 3% by college.
 - Unit adjustments will be at the same time (not in spring as in previous years).
 - Unit adjustment - opportunity to give a boost to people who are strongly underpaid. Limited funds from the Dean's office this year means ESS has to pay for it.

- **Prelim (Schmidt, Muth) - Update (15 minutes)**
 - Can request slides.
 - The committee has received feedback on this process and internal conversations are ongoing. There is a scheduled meeting with faculty to discuss (**Tuesday May 21, 1:30-2:30 PM**)
 - Committee working to update the Prelim Guide this Spring/Summer, to submit to the policy committee in the fall. Then it will be disseminated to

the broader community for feedback. Depending on changes, faculty will vote on it in fall/winter. Aim is to provide greater clarity for students on what happens under various circumstances post-prelim.

Open Session Close: 3:02 PM