

DEPARTMENT OF EARTH SCIENCES

Departmental Meeting

Monday, March 4th, 2013 at 1:30 am

In attendance:

Diana Allen, Andy Calvert, Kevin Cameron, Robbie Dunlop, Dan Gibson, Dirk Kirsste, James MacEachern (Chair), Derek Thorkelson, Brent Ward, Glyn Williams-Jones, Bonnie Karhukangas, Tarja Vaisanen, Matt Plotnikoff

Absent: John Clague, Shahin Dashtgard, Gwenn Flowers, Cindy Hansen, Dan Marshall, Doug Stead, Andrew La Croix (Grad Rep), Hazel Wong (Undergrad Rep)

1. Approval of Past Minutes:

Motion to approve minutes of October 22nd, 2012 Seconded: G. Williams-Jones

- Approved unanimously

2. Chair's Report:

- Bus: The bus is currently being built with parameters as approved by the department. We hope to have it by June 2013. Thanks to Matt, Derek & Brent for their efforts.

- Space: The Dean was unsuccessful in securing the TASC1 7000 for our use. Renovation permission has been secured from the Dean for SCK 7654, 7656, 7658. An ad hoc committee consisting of Matt, Doug, Diana, Shahin and Ken McFalane (from Dean's office) will bring a plan to the department for the renovations.

- Microscopes: The Dean has approved the purchase of 15 petrographic scopes to match the 10 new ones they purchased last year. This allows a fleet of 24 high end scopes of the same model with one deemed as a teaching scope.

- Kevin Gillen has joined the department as a Limited Term Lecturer from January to December 2013 to help cover various study leaves and mat leave. Kevin brings expertise in petroleum geology, sedimentary petrology, tectonics, and will cover some intro courses as well.

- Field School: EASC 308 is under development. Brent and James have travelled to the Cowichan Lake area to investigate the viability of carrying out the field school in the area. There appears to be ample materials in the vicinity to expose the students to hydrogeological issues, aqueous geochem, terrane mapping, geological hazards, quaternary geology, and some structural geology. Accommodations can readily be had at the Cowichan Lake Research Station. Bedrock sed strat remains problematic, but Shahin will begin investigating coastal exposures towards Duncan and Port Renfrew. There will need further investigation in the area to develop specific exercises for the course. The first EASC308 course is slated for 2014-2.

- EASC Hockey: On February 26th the 6th annual hockey game took place. The game was packed with excitement with a balanced mix of veteran and new players. Thanks to Diana for continuing to organize this fun event and promote collegiality in the department. Well done!

3. Undergraduate Committee Report: Glyn Williams-Jones

- Learning Outcomes: The Faculty of Science mid-level Learning Outcomes still under development. Working Definitions have been defined: *Learning Outcome; Teaching Goal, Program*. Potential Earth Sciences Program Learning Outcomes attached. Please review and send any updates to Glyn to bring forward to next department meeting for a vote.
- Course Outlines: Pilot project to test new Online Course Evaluations websurvey template will involve EASC 101 & 108 this spring

4. Graduate Committee Report: Dan Gibson

- Review Earth Sciences TA Hiring Priorities based on the new TSSU collective bargaining agreement – see attached revision. Please review other factors ranking order and send any updates to Dan to bring forward to next department meeting for a vote.

5. AOB:

- Matt Plotnikoff reminded everyone regarding Field Safety Guidelines. Protocol and procedures written out in a summary. For more information visit the Environmental Health & Safety website.

CLOSED MEETING

6. Adjunct Proposal: Matthew Leybourne (see attachments)

- Brent Ward put forward a submission to consider offering adjunct status to Matthew Leybourne.

Motion to approve adjunct Matthew Leybourne Seconded: D. Allen

-Approved unanimously

Motion to Adjourn: Unanimous

Meeting ended at: 2:45 pm