

DEPARTMENT OF EARTH SCIENCES

Departmental Meeting

Monday, February 16th, 2015 at 1:30 pm

In attendance:

Diana Allen, Andy Calvert, Kevin Cameron, John Clague, Shahin Dashtgard, Robbie Dunlop, Gwenn Flowers, Dan Gibson, Cindy Hansen, Dirk Kirste, James MacEachern, Dan Marshall, Derek Thorkelson, Brent Ward (Chair), Glyn Williams-Jones, Tarja Vaisanen, Matt Plotnikoff, , Carly Smythe (Undergrad Rep)

Absent: Reid Staples, Doug Stead, Oliver Friesen (Grad Rep)

Congratulations to Rodney Arnold for 10 years of service with SFU

1. **Approval of Past Minutes:**

Motion to approve minutes of January 19th, 2015 Seconded: G. Williams-Jones

Approved unanimously with wording correction

2. **Business from previous minutes:**

- i. New Hire – we will wait until spring when all approvals for hires have been completed – bring our petition up again to John Driver to see if any room for a new hire (could be regular or CRC hire)
Discussion: we should also keep in mind upcoming retirees and renewals
- ii. Safety Form – Stephen Cain has reviewed the new form. We will use this for the spring and summer courses (post on Intranet)
- iii. Retreat – still trying to find a date....will open up the poll from the last day of spring classes until the end of April. Possible venue Harbour Centre. Will look into a facilitator.
- iv. Budget – due to the budget constraints, please communicate about any upcoming expenditures.
Discussion: should we look at cutting any admin expenses? (printing, copying, phones etc.)

3. **Chair's Report:**

- i. PhD Student: Andrew LaCroix – Andrew had emergency back surgery and is still in hospital with anticipated time in rehab. James MacEachern has agreed to defer his admin leave to finish teaching EASC 201 in Andrew's absence.
- ii. Undergrad Student: Josh Wiebe – Josh was selected as a Faculty of Science ambassador and will present talks at upcoming functions representing EASC.

4. **Undergraduate Committee:** Shahin Dashtgard

- i. Nothing to report

5. **Graduate Committee:** Andy Calvert

- i. Approved SAG award

6. **EASC Grades:** Brent Ward

- i. EASC has a range in grades, but looks on par with the Faculty of Science.

Discussion: What is the grading conversion? Do we want standardized grading in EASC....possibly posting on our website?

Action: Diana will send out a spreadsheet for faculty to fill in their current grading percent.

7. **Academic Integrity:** Gwenn Flowers

- i. Information was circulated by email. No discussion.

8. **A.O.B.** (any other business)

- i. Seminar Series – The seminar series will be moved to Thursdays from 3:30-4:30 effective Fall 2015
- ii. Library – Dirk Kirste library update: the budget has been decreased by 15% (\$4,000) per year.
Springer e-books are no longer available.

Motion to Adjourn: Unanimous

Meeting ended at: 2:20 pm