

DEPARTMENT OF EARTH SCIENCES

Departmental Meeting
Monday, November 26, 2018 at 10:30 am

In Attendance:

Diana Allen, Andy Calvert, Kevin Cameron, Robbie Donald, Brendan Dyck, Cindy Hansen, Dirk Kirste, Derek Thorkelson, Eileen van der Flier-Keller, Brent Ward (Chair), Doug Stead, Glyn Williams-Jones, Matt Plotnikoff, Aspen Anderson (Grad Rep), Crey Ackerson (Undergrad Rep), Lorena Munoz

Not attending: Shahin Dashtgard, Dan Gibson, Bonnie Karhukangas, James MacEachern, Gwenn Flowers, Dan Marshall, Tarja Vaisanen

1. **Approval of Past Minutes:**

Motion to approve minutes of September 24th, 2018

Approved Unanimously

2. **Business from previous minutes:**

3. **Chair's Report:**

- i. Book of ideas: Brent did a presentation on Natural Hazards. This proposal was one that was selected to go forward. Glyn and Brent will be working on a full CFI proposal. The next call for proposals for the next round of CFI's is likely January with a likely submission date of October, 2019. So there is lots of time to think of ideas, equipment, and infrastructure that can be added to the proposal that broadly apply to Natural Hazards.
- ii. Upgrades: The projectors from TASC 1 7005 and 7011 will be replaced and will use one of them to replace the one in 7006. Kevin asked to also look into the projector at TASC 2. Matt is exploring some options to have a Digital Display in the hallway.
- iii. Our Chair is going to be participating into the Faculty Smackdown on Thursday, November 29, 2018.

4. **Undergraduate Committee:**

- i. EASC 411 – The undergrad chair is recommending to remove some of the pre-requisites. All in favor.
- ii. It was proposed to add SCI 301 (targeting SCI majors) into the selection of electives for our program. All in favour
- iii. Program Requirements for the EASC Certificate: instead of listing the courses, change it to 101 mandatory and at least 21 additional units from EASC courses and associate pre-requisites, as well as SCI 301.
A suggestion of making a brochure was made.
- iv. Courses to be offered via CODE: EASC 103, EASC 106 and maybe 108. Nothing moving forward until CODE restructuring is completed.
- v. Educational goals: Diana has started some data collection for her course EASC 304. It needs to be courses with a long history of offering and required in each stream. The courses proposed are: EASC 301, EASC 304, EASC 315W, EASC 310W, EASC 306 and EASC 308.
Some of the information that needs to be collected is how much the students know when they start the course and how much they learned at the end to determine if the educational goals were met.
We need to know where the information is going to be stored.

- vi. Name change for EASC 210 – In order to attract more students and to prevent misunderstandings on what the course is about, it was decided to change the name to: Evolving Earth and it will stay as a 200 course.
- vii. It was suggested to have EASC 206 to Summer Intersession.

5. Graduate Committee:

- i. EASC 901 – The proposal of having it as Grad Student Mini-conference has been approved as a trial for the spring 2019 semester. The date will remain the proposed one: 21 March 2019

6. Mission Statement for Strategic Planning Committee:

The only suggestion was to choose to use Earth Science or Earth Sciences. Brent and Glyn will talk about it.

7. Departmental Digital Presence:

The department already has a LinkedIn page and Bonnie takes care of it. There is an option of having a Grad student to “manage” Twitter but it would be a position, not an RA and the collective agreements can make things difficult. The option of having Facebook was rejected and Twitter was supported. Brent and Brendan will talk about it to see if Brendan can manage it.

8. Outreach:

Glyn and Eileen participated in a visit from Counsellors from local high schools. They have suggested to go to the career nights at the high schools to reach out to the students. Earth Sciences is in the B list of courses which means EASC courses are not taught frequently and students sometimes don’t even know they exist.

9. Safety:

There are some signs, in the doors, that need to be updated and please remind your students they need to take the New & Young Worker Safety Orientation.

10. A.O.B:

- i. Equipment: Let Tarja know what new equipment you are going to need so she can add it to next years budget.
- ii. Dirk is going to send the library the list of books they have for us. If you need any, please let the library or Dirk know.
- iii. Adjuncts Proposal: Doug has nominated Dr. Sonia D’Ambra.

Meeting ended at 12:20 pm