College of the Environment Dean Lisa Graumlich made a presentation to the department regarding the new UW EarthLab initiative.

Call to Order - Meeting of the Faculty in Open Session

• Department Chair Bruce Nelson Called the meeting to order at 3:30

Approval of Meeting Minutes

• February 5, 2016 Faculty Meeting Minutes were circulated and approved.

Announcements

- Good News Items
 - Professor Jody Bourgeois has received the 2016 Distinguished Alumna Award from the University of Wisconsin Geosciences Department.
 - There has been a marked increase in seminar attendance over the past several weeks. Thanks go out to the grad reps for their efforts in this area.
 - UW has received a Murdoch Foundation Grant in the amount of \$850,000. This is a cross-unit effort with Oceanography to fund a new lab. Fangzhen Teng and Alexis Licht from ESS are part of this project.
- Reminder to faculty to submit their Scholarly Activity Reports. Preliminary information from the Provost's office indicates merit raises are likely, but yet to be determined. ESS raises require updating one's Scholarly Activity Report.
- UW is changing the definition of capitalized equipment from \$2000 to \$5000. Much inventory will be coming off the list due to current values less than \$5000. The effect of the new definition on F&A calculation will become effective May 1, 2016.
- ESS Research Gala will be held March 31-April 1. Organizers are still looking for faculty judges and donations for prizes. Please encourage all grad students to participate.
- Reminder that the undergraduate open house will be held July 22. More info to follow.
- ESS Graduate Student Open House held February 24-27 was a great success with 100% turnout among those invited. The Dinner held at the Burke Museum was packed with over 90 ESS community members in attendance.

Reports and Business

Curriculum (Gorman-Lewis) – Nothing to report.

Undergraduate Program (Roe) – Nothing to report.

Graduate Program (Creager) – Graduate Student Activity Reports are due. 25% have completed them to date. Encourage your students to get these done as soon as possible.

Standing Committees

Admissions (Buick) – Open House a success. To date, ESS has admitted 17 graduate students. We've had one acceptance and one declination. Faculty are encouraged to reach

out to the prospectives. Holzworth questioned the timing of the Open House in the recruiting season. Buick notes that many of the prospectives already have offers in hand when they visit UW.

Computing (Harnett) – Nothing to report.

Oversight (Brown/McCarthy) – Nothing to report.

Prelim (Gorman-Lewis/Schmidt) – Nothing to report.

Promotion, Reappointment & Merit (Holzworth/Catling) – Nothing to report.

Scholarships, Fellowships, and Awards (Bergantz) – Nothing to report.

Old Business - None

New Business

• Jon Stone reported that he had recently attended Faculty Senate, and that proposed changes to the faculty salary policy were debated. The Senate voted down the policy change and sent it back for further amendment. This is relevant given that UW faculty members are currently weighing unionization vs. shared-governance (i.e., Faculty Code & Senate) as the means for setting salary policy.

Adjourn to Executive Session (3:57 p.m.)

Minutes by Scott Dakins

Attendees – Faculty: Bergantz, Bodin, Buick, Catling, Collins, Cowan, Creager, Crider, Duvall, Gorman-Lewis, Hallet, Harnett, Holzworth, Houston, Nelson, Roe, Schmidt, Sletten, Stone, Vidale, Waddington, Walters, Wood.

Staff, Students and Guests: Bernard-Kingsley, Bernhardt, Dakins, Ludwig, Oxley, Schanz, Schreiber, Schleicher.