

Water Institute Faculty Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
October 2, 2007

Attendees: Mark Brenner, Wendy Graham, Jim Heaney, Jim Jawitz, Jim Jones, Jon Martin, Peter Sheng, Rick Stepp.

1. Discussed itinerary for next Distinguished Scholar Ed Miles,

.Agreed would conduct meeting using same agenda as last time. Would also ask about his perceptions “top 5” Water programs in US, and where UF ranks.

Ed Miles Distinguished Scholar Seminar Itinerary

Wednesday October 17th

Ed Miles arrives Gainesville 7:20pm (Jim Jones will meet at airport)

Thursday October 18th :

Mornings with interested faculty (Wendy Graham to coordinate)

Possibilities:

Interdisciplinary Water Working Group

Political Science faculty: Schwartz, Theile, Rosenbam

SNRE Climate Working Group

Noon: Lunch with Jim Jones and Wendy Graham

1pm -2:45 pm : Meet with entire Faculty Advisory Committee 122 Rogers

3pm -4:30 pm : Seminar 282 Reitz Union (Refreshments served beginning at 3pm)

7pm: Dinner with members of FAC (TBD)

Overnight at the UF Hilton

Friday October 19th:

Meetings with faculty from South East Climate Consortium (Jim Jones to coordinate)

Ed Miles Departs Gainesville 4pm

2. Discussed the next upcoming Distinguished Scholar Seminar speaker

Lonnie Thompson will be the next speaker. All meetings will occur on Thursday Nov 1st, 2008. Mark Brenner will coordinate morning meetings, afternoon will be FAC meeting and seminar.

3. Discussed the status of Water Institute Symposium planning

- Registration Fees.. Discussed and concluded \$150 registration fee is appropriate, shouldn't have to waive UF faculty fees. Reduce fee of \$50 for students is also reasonable. Poster prize should be a draw.

- Brainstormed speakers for oral presentations and panel participants (Laura Ogden FIU, anthropologist, Everglades; Carl Hiassan, author; David Flagg, Governing Board SRWMD; David Pyne Aquifer Storage and Recovery; Bob Knight Minimum Flows and Levels; Jean Claude Bonzongo Arsensic in ASR wells; George O'Connor Emerging Contaminants; Sid Flannery SWFWMD Minimum Flows and Levels)

4. Discussed Timing, Format and Content for Program Initiation Funds

Concluded that we should hold off on issuing an RFP for PIF funds (last year we did it in November). Need to identify 2 or 3 foci to specifically fund interdisciplinary faculty groups to go after. Could use PIF as matching funds for Florida WMD and DEP grants, especially if discussed topics in advance with Districts and DEP, and got their agreement to match. Use Distinguished Scholar meetings and Symposium to help brainstorm ideas. Plan to issue RFP (if that is what we decide in March 2008). Set aside time at next regular FAC meeting to more fully discuss strategies for selecting foci and implementing PIF around these.

5. Other Issues FAC would like to take up

Discussed where we see, or would like to see, the Water Institute going... Note we are now about half way through the 3 year initiation period Ideas included...

1. Relationship builder and conduit for state funding from WMDs and DEP?
Visits to the WMDS (Wendy has been to all but NFWWMD) and participation of WMD Executive Directors (4 have confirmed) and DEP Secretary (invited not confirmed) at Symposium should help achieve this. Perhaps design next PIF to help achieve this
2. Relationship builder for strategic partnerships with other universities?
Distinguished Scholar Seminar Series, Position as Chair of the Board of CUASHI, inclusion of one of 11 WATERS testbeds helps with this, but need to do more.
3. An entity that makes faculty life easier? *Staff to help coordinate interdisciplinary proposals and projects may make life easier, but not really sure if there is a lot we can do here*
4. An entity that make a faculty life more interesting? *This we should do, if not what is the point of the Water Institute. Interdisciplinary interactions should make life more interesting. The Water Institute should provide venues (seminars, symposia), help identify funding, and help coordinate projects that make this happen*

Agreed that we need to spend more time thinking about this, especially in conjunction with the design of the next PIF opportunity

6. Next Meetings:

Thursday Oct 18th, 1pm, 122 Rogers Hall with Ed Miles
Thursday Nov 1st, 1pm, 365 Weil Hall, with Lonnie Thompson
Tuesday Nov 6th, 3pm. 365 Weil Hall, regular meeting

