

Hydrologic Sciences Academic Cluster Faculty Committee Meeting  
September 27, 2010

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Jim Jawitz  
Matt Cohen  
Ray Huffaker  
Jean-Claude Bonzongo  
Wendy Graham  
Anna Cathey

Meeting opened at 1:10 PM by Matt Cohen, HSFC Chair.

1. Review of minutes from [March 2, 2010](#) meeting.  
Motion to Accept: Wendy Graham  
2<sup>nd</sup> Motion: Jim Jawitz  
Discussion: None  
Vote: Unanimously accepted
2. Review of new faculty member application for Martha Monroe.  
Motion to Approve: Matt Cohen  
2<sup>nd</sup> Motion: Ray Huffaker  
Discussion: Martha's CV is online for review. Members thought she would be a good fit for the program.  
Vote: Unanimously approved.
3. New student applications: Yogesh Khare and Rachel Douglass.  
Motion to Approve: Jim Jawitz  
2<sup>nd</sup> Motion: Anna Cathey  
Discussion: None  
Vote: Unanimously approved.
4. New student application that depended on Martha Monroe's application being approved. For Lara Colley.  
Motion to Approve: Wendy Graham  
2<sup>nd</sup> Motion: Ray Huffaker  
Discussion: None  
Vote: Unanimously approved.
5. Nomination and Vote on Chair Elect for current academic year (2010-2011).  
Jim Jawitz was nominated as Chair Elect for the academic year 2010-2011 by Wendy Graham. There were no other nominations. Jim Jawitz accepted the nomination. Vote was held.  
Motion to Approve: Wendy Graham  
2<sup>nd</sup> Motion: Matt Cohen  
Discussion: Ray Huffaker and Jean-Claude Bonzongo expressed their agreement.  
Vote: Unanimously approved.
6. A question was brought up about when the student representative to the HSFC occurs. The election is held in Spring, and the one-year term begins in the Fall semester. Also a question

came up about the next Faculty Rotation to be voted on. It is Rotation C: Subsurface Hydrology/Hydrologic Chemistry.

7. The requirements for Non-Thesis MS students versus Coursework only MS students were discussed. Wendy Graham agreed to review the requirements and propose changes that are consistent with the graduate schools new rule that Non-Thesis MS students no longer require a committee.
8. A discussion of student involvement was brought up by Matt Cohen. Jim Jawitz stated that some students think that this is just an "on paper" concentration. The students don't know who each other are and there is no student based activities to participate in. It was suggested that to increase student involvement a student activity should be integrated into the Water Institute Distinguished Scholars Seminar. A sign-in list could be required at the seminars, information could be sent out via the HSAC student listserv. Activities associated with the Water Institute Distinguished Scholar Seminars were explored and more information will be gathered and reported back to determine which activities will be held. The tentative plan is to have an HSAC-student led meeting with the speaker after the seminar, perhaps at an off-site location. Another alternative is to have an HSAC student lunch with the speaker.
9. The upcoming Water Institute Distinguished Scholars Seminars were discussed. They are David Yates on 11/4/2010, Steven Daniels on 11/17/10 and Juan Carlos Vargas-Moreno on 12/2/10.
10. New courses for inclusion in the curriculum were brought up in Spring 2010 EES5415, EES6318 and MET5504. A final vote was held today on these 3 courses. EES5414 and EES6318 were approved for Topic 6 and MET5504 was approved for Topic 5 instead of Topic 2 as originally requested. Discussion was held about MET5504 and the fact that it did not meet the criteria for Topic 2, but may be a better fit for Topic 5. Matt Cohen agreed to request the syllabus for MET5504 from Corene Matyas.

Motion to Approve EES5415, EES6318 as Topic 6 and MET5504 as Topic 5 by Wendy Graham.

2<sup>nd</sup> Motion: Ray Huffaker

Discussion: see above

Vote: Unanimously approved as moved.

Two new courses submitted by J. Mossa for consideration were discussed: GEO6348 Floods Seminar in Topic 6 and GEO6938 Fluvial Morphology and Processes in Topic 2. Discussion was held and a decision was made that Matt Cohen will request course syllabuses for these 2 courses and returned to the committee for a vote.

11. Ray Huffaker asked about the course listing status. A review of the curriculum was held recently and the listing was updated accordingly. Ray Huffaker agreed to review Topic 6 (Policy and Management) courses to see if there are an appropriate number and mix of courses in that category. He also stated that he was going to be teaching a new course and thought it may be applicable to Topic 5 (Analysis and Techniques).
12. Distance Ed course options were discussed. There was a student applicant who needed distance-ed course options to meet the HSAC requirements. After discussion by HSFC members a distance-ed course was identified in Topic 1 that the student could take. No distance ed course in Topic 2 was identified. The HSFC agreed allowed that they would allow the student to meet the HSAC requirements by taking the identified course in Topic 1 and 3 courses from any other 3 topics. The student's application and petition has not been submitted yet. Matt asked each HSFC faculty member on the committee to review the course listing in the topic they represent and let him know which courses are or have been available through Distance Ed so they can be noted on the website.

13. A brief discussion was held on the most recent data from the grad school that included courses taken by past graduates. It was brought up that the data seemed to be incomplete. Additional faculty reviewed the data and agreed that it seemed incomplete. Matt is going to request the data from the grad school again to include all of the courses taken in the graduate school by the students.

It was also discussed that some students had applied to the grad school without applying to the HSAC and had graduated with the concentration on their transcript without being an approved HSAC student. Ways to close the loop are needed.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:10 PM