Board Meeting Minutes

University of Florida – Department of Geological Sciences

Advisory Board Meeting

October 19, 2018 – Austin Carey Forest Education Building, Gainesville, Florida

Board Members Present: Jim Anderson, Teresa Fischer (Chair), George Foster, Kendall Fountain, Steve Krupa, Carolyn Luysterburg, Andrew Romeo, Doug Valleau,

Board Members Absent: Mike Graves, Kevin Hoyle, Neil Johnson, Elliot Mallard (Vice Chair), Wink Winkler

Faculty Present: Dr. David Foster, Dr. Paul Mueller

Student Representative: Daniel Fischer

CLAS: Amanda Sullivan, Albert Coker

Guest: George Schlutermann

Proceedings

- Call to Order 9:45 am

Dr. David Foster – State of the Department

- CLAS updates
  - 111 faculty searches 2017-2018 across the college, 103 positions filled
  - CLAS faculty at 734
  - 120 searches for 2018-2019; growth to 825 is the required target

- Budget (State)
  - Expenses $31,200
  - OPS $249,181 (Fall instruction ~$121K)
  - Salaries $3,462,153

- Budget (Department IDC)
  - Balance $61,000
  - Annual income estimated $26,000
  - Commitments to startup $80,000 over next 3 years (new and continuing, startup for new faculty)

- Grants
  - Total value of awards $3,924,000 (most multiyear projects)
  - No industry grants; faculty profile does not have people that would solve problems relating to industry projects/grants
  - Foundation grants are all currently in surplus

- Faculty
  - Two new hires
    - Amy Williams – biogeology, Mars regolith, biomarkers of life
    - Steve Elardo – experimental petrology, planetary geochemistry
    - Official UF employees; start Spring 2019
    - Steve at Carnegie through December, Amy at Townsend U.
  - Could not fill the intended geophysics position
  - New searches for 2018-2019
    - Timescales and Rates of Earth Change
    - Plate Margin Dynamics/Environments
- Lecturer in Geosciences
  - Attrition replacement of faculty lines; salary stays in unit (in the department, can replace him/her)
  - Tenure/Tenure-Track
    - Forte, Foster, Meert, Mueller, Perfit, Russo, Elardo
    - Adams, Bianchi, Brenner, Ciesielski (retiring 2019), Dutton, Jaeger, Williams, Martins, Screaton, Zimmerman
- Research Faculty
  - Cotton*, Curtis, Heatherington, Kamenov, Min*, Thomas (*soft money); Cotton is only here for 1 more year, need a paleontologist
- Teaching
  - Smith, Vogl
- Affiliate
  - Bloch, Jones, Kowaleski, MacFadden, Manchester, Mossa

- Undergraduate Program:
  - Postbac certificate program started this semester – 2 students
  - Marine Science BS degree approaching the formal proposal stage
  - Total residential majors = 71 (47 BS)
    - Peak at 99 in 2015
    - Drop is possibly due to changes in general education impacting found majors; recruit out of general education
  - UF Online majors = 39 (19 second degree); PACE/UFO = 5, these will go into residential
  - Economic geology taught under honorarium to cover travel
  - Quest2 – major changes in general education in the near future
    - Natural Disasters, Hydrology and Human Affairs, Earth Systems, Age of Dinosaurs
    - New courses inserted into general education, often for second year students for science requirements; get more students exposed to the field; may be good for recruiting majors
  - ONLY geology program in the country with a fully online program
    - First year; tuition from the 2 students in the postbac certificate program is going to advertising for the online geology program
    - How do we advertise and promote? Talk to certificate programs for states? ASBOG? Get Google hits up?

- Graduate Program:
  - Total active students = 35; down from 47 in Fall 2015
  - 21 TA positions for Fall 2018
  - Recruiting needs to be increased this year; need more PhD students for Fall 2019 for health of the program
  - Stipend rates are finally competitive (minimum of $19,800/9 months of $26,400/12 months)
  - Retention/completion – reasonable rates of completion (average <3 M.S., <5 Ph.D.)
  - Minimum core course requirements for PhDs?
    - E.g. seismology enrollment is down, even though it's a core part of the field and is very important for employment options
    - Take 2 courses outside discipline area was a proposed option
    - Need opinion of students

- Website
  - New flexible template that can be updated
  - To go live soon
  - To be reviewed for content and edits

- Department Name
  - Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences proposed
  - Degree structure to remain the same

- Development
  - New van, new stream table, microscopes
  - Field camp and student-led geology trips
  - Economic geology course funding similar to ore geology course
  - Graduate student fellowships
  - Fundraising for undergrad teaching lab (141)
Amanda Sullivan and Albert Coker – CLAS Development

- Albert Coker started June 15, 2018 and is learning the department needs
- Overview of focus provided; reach out to alumni and friends to connect/reconnect to the department
  - 18 months average to request dollars

All – Advisory Board Discussion

- Internships
  - Update contact information and job and internship opportunities on website
  - Undergraduate student on the board to be the liaison with the undergraduate student body
  - Course credit available for Fall and Spring internships
- Education
  - Economic Geology
    - Andrew Romeo crafted outline for key topics
    - Course structures with field trips to coincide with topics taught
    - Fall 2019 start; Advisory Board Members to serve as instructors
    - Finalize outline and identify instructors
- Fundraising
  - Fishing tournament – same size
    - Move to Fall for more Redfish opportunities
  - 75th Anniversary – save the date for a year out, think about locations (March 2023 is official date)
    - Arredondo Room - must use UF Catering
    - Potential Halls: Emerson, Keene Center, Trussler, Music Hall
    - Proposed Structure
      - Friday Happy Hour at Museum
      - Saturday – Open House at Department; Activities - fossil hunting, canoeing, Springs visit, etc.; Evening event on campus
      - Sunday – Fishing Tournament?

Daniel Fischer – Student Report and Activities

- See attached presentation

Action Items

- Promote Postbac Certification Program, contact Stan Warden – Teresa Fischer
- Website Review – ALL
- Lab Design/Write Up for Fundraising – David Foster
- Recruit new Board Members - ALL
- Economic Geologist
  - Andrew Romeo to finalize outline
  - Target for Fall 2019 – David Foster
  - Board Members to serve as instructors - ALL
- Undergraduate Advisory Board Liaison – David Foster
- 75th Anniversary – Teresa Fischer
  - Investigate locations for evening reception
  - Saturday Activities

Meeting adjourned 3:10 pm