

Watershed Faculty Meeting

Meeting Minutes: February 21, 2019; Friday 3:40 PM to 5:10 PM
102 Morgan Hall

Attendance

Brian Alford, Brad Collett, Jennifer Franklin, Tim Gangaware, Jon Hathaway, Joanne Logan, Andrea Ludwig, Ian McRae, and John Schwartz

Meeting Agenda

1. Executive Committee: New Appointments
2. 2019 Watershed Symposium
3. Watershed Course Development
4. Watershed Minor: Graduate School Request
5. Updates from the Tennessee Water Resources Research Center
6. Next Meeting

Executive Committee : New Appointments

Following the Watershed Faculty Minor bylaws, Andrea Ludwig announced the results of the faculty votes for the new Executive Committee college representatives. They are:

Jennifer Franklin, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Brad Collett, College of Architecture and Design
Yingkui (Phillip) Li, College of Arts and Science
Jon Hathaway, College of Engineering
Becky Jacobs, College of Law

The new representatives nominated John Schwartz as the chair of the Watershed Faculty Consortium. With his new position as the Director of the Tennessee Water Resources Research Center (TNWRRRC), it made sense to coordinate efforts between the Watershed Faculty Consortium and the TNWRRRC. Andrea Ludwig officially handed over the position. We all thanked her for her service over the years.

2019 Watershed Symposium

Andrea Ludwig is chairing this year's symposium. She was able to get space at 102 Mossman Hall. Symposium announcement flyers have been generated and distributed. She gave an overview of the symposium, this year it will be in the afternoon on March 26, 2019. This year's theme is on watershed plan development with a focus on specially developing watershed plan for 319 funding per EPA requirements. Discussion on logistical symposium planning followed.

Student poster session will be at 12 noon-1 PM and 4:00 – 5:00 PM. We will request students to set up their posters in the morning at 11:30 AM. Judging will take place between 12 noon-1 PM, and awards announced sometime between 4:00 – 5:00 PM. Awards will be \$75 for first, \$50 for second, and \$25 for third. Tim Gangaware is working on how to issue the awards to the students. Joanne Logan will obtain six panels which can hold up to six posters (we have a total of 36 slots). Andrea Ludwig will create a Google Forms for students to register their poster, and send it out to the faculty. She will remind faculty next week. Brad and Jennifer will serve as judges and create rubric for scoring posters. Note poster size limitations will be 42" by 36".

Parking. We can get 20 parking passes at \$5 each through parking services. These are needed for off-campus visitors. We need to follow up on how to handle and get to individuals that need them.

John Schwartz secured that Sam Marshall will be the keynote speaker, starting at 1:00 PM. He will be presenting on the 319 watershed planning process. It will be followed by three watershed group speakers: Roy Arthur of Knox County on the Beaver Creek watershed restoration activities, Lena Beth Reynolds on the Oostanaula River watershed, and Bill Waldrop of the Watershed Assoc. of the Tellico Reservoir (Bat Creek watershed). After which, the students working on the EPA Rainwater Challenge from Ian McRae's Fall 2018 semester will present their work on campus rainwater planning and infrastructure ideas. At the end of the day, poster awards will be announced.

Watershed Course Development

The group discussed developing a multidisciplinary course, cross-listed among interested departments/colleges on *Watershed Management and Planning*. The course would include the development of a watershed plan that meets the EPA requirements for 319 funding, and the students would choose a watershed to create the plan. The aim is to assist faculty interested in applying for future 319 funding grants. The paperwork to create the course for the graduate catalog will be in August. We will offer the course the first time Spring 2020 semester as a special topics among interested departments. The instructor(s) are to be determined.

Watershed Minor: Graduate School Request

Associate Dean John Stier requested the group review the Graduate Catalog description for the Watershed Minor particularly for the *Admission standards/procedures* and *Academic standards*. The group attending reviewed the draft description and had not changes to it.

Updates from the Tennessee Water Resources Research Center

John Schwartz discussed with the group various ideas for the TNWRRC. The first task at hand is to update and redesign the Center's web page to make it an informative source for news and events, research, education, trainings and outreach, graduate student recruitment, and watershed-related activities/products. The web page will feature a faculty member and highlight their research, and a graduate student – these will rotate on some frequency. A web page for the Watershed Faculty Consortium will be separated from the Watershed Minor web-page, but still linked. The web page for the Watershed Faculty Consortium will be maintained by staff at the TNWRRC. The key to the web page is to keep it continually updated with new and useful information. The TNWRRC web site will also be a location to post call-for-proposals.

The TNWRRC will generate a newsletter, issued in the spring, summer, and fall. Articles on research and engagement activities are welcomed.

It was discussed briefly about bringing the *Tennessee River Basin Network* (TRBN) operations from Clemson University to UTK, the TNWRRC. Brad Collett serves on the TRBN advisory committee. Brad will discuss with the TRBN to see what the possibilities are for this to occur. Partial funding for the position will come through TVA, ISSE, and the TNWRRC. The TRBN created a report card and the idea is that it would be housed and updated here.

Also mentioned was the development of an *Urban Waters Report Card* for the state of Tennessee stormwater (MS4) communities. The idea for the report card was created by Jennifer Dodd and Karina Bynum with TDEC. TDEC strongly supports its development and have requested the TNWRRC to oversee its development with funding through the state's MS4s. Tim Gangaware and John Schwartz had a state-wide conference call on it with the major MS4s, and plan to meet individually with each MS4 over the next month to start the organizational process.

The TNWRRC with ISSE will assist in research initiatives for team development and other recourse needs. An advisory board will be created to set priorities for the TNWRRC consisting of the Watershed Faculty Consortium. A second advisory board will be created that includes initiatives of higher education across the state of Tennessee, because the TNWRRC is a §104 funded water center. A third advisory board will consist of state agencies that have water-related goals. More to come on future TNWRRC initiatives are future meetings.

Next Meeting

Next Watershed Faculty meeting is scheduled for Friday. 3:30 to 5:00 PM on April 5, 2019. Location TBA.