**MES Faculty Meeting September 21, 2016**

Attendance: Kevin Francis, Ted Whitesell, Kathleen Saul, Heather May, John Withey, Miranda Mellis

**Updates**

Webpage: Has been updated. Send requests for changes to Heather. Arielle wants to produce video interviews with Faculty/make recommendations for website.

Archives: why do we need a hard copy? Gold standard of archiving. Staffing concerns/shelf space may not allow for theses to be out on the shelf. If there is an academic need we can justify changes to archives. We need a link on the MES Thesis webpage with link to the archives, and we need PDFs to be uploaded quickly (Saul). Idea to have UGs help us because there are two courses which teach archiving. Heather/Kevin to follow up.

Faculty bios: can use the blurbs used for Orientation. We would also like to have lists of publications

Radius: will be storehouse for information but not sure how sensitive and unsure of access. Mostly used for recruitment. Question (Withey) about how to access information about a potential thesis student? Ask faculty, application. Heather will email faculty to see if they want to test app.

Randal Preserve Potluck: Tuesday October 18. What if rain? Where to sit? Tables? Heather to work with Daron Williams to plan. Heather send email, faculty announce in class.

Thesis Idea Fair: Thursday November 3. Heather to email, faculty to announce in class. Dennis Buckingham

AD Search: closes September 28

Environmental Social Scientist Search: closes

**Thesis Support**

Dedicated MES lab space: Kevin/Erin talked to lab stores to see if they can get us more space. Students should talk to Kylie ASAP when they decide they need lab space. Heather to email out Kylie’s info DONE.

Student Activity Grant: offering it earlier this year to accommodate thesis. Due October 28. Unsure of exactly what it can fund-be ambitious. Heather to send an email to ALL current students with link to the grant webpage NEXT WEEK. Then reminder later, faculty to announce in class.

Clean Energy Committee: they have a lot of money. They want to fund theses! 2 categories: academic program and student projects (posters, TAs, guest speakers). They meet every quarter. Tell MESA: one source of funding may be CEC if Rachel Carson is energy-related or whatever. Heather to send link to Faculty with resources website to review for changes/additions.

Sustainability Fellows: to continue work of Sustainability elective. Heather to send out to students when complete.

Assessment of WSDOT: Kevin to complete and then send out/ask Heather to send out.

**Housekeeping**

Student Handbook: Does registration policies surrounding extra four credits (beyond 12) make sense (Francis)? Is it a good policy? It is nice because students can take 8 free credits. Consequence is that it will most likely be more work for Faculty because more students will want to take advantage of this option. Should we put that in the handbook (May)? Whitesell encourages Faculty sponsors to have good/working relationships with field supervisors, encourage service learning, fosters continued involvement. Especially when cultivating new relationships, we have a pretty good relationship with the long-standing partners (Francis). Beef up language about doing something new at your current job. Put preliminary thesis language in thesis handbook as well.

Governance: Admissions: there are three, there only needs to be two. Is it useful to have a Faculty member as advisor (Francis)? It’s a student organization-let students (Whitesell). Heather volunteered. Mentoring Days: student panels, get on the Program-MES Panel. Heather and Kevin to research how panels work. Professional development workshops: PhD. Programs, writing CVs/resumes/coverletters. Faculty to ask students in Case Studies what they want to see in terms of professional development workshops. Whitesell volunteers for Admissions Committee. Withey on Admissions Committee. Mellis on Graduation Committee. Saul Thesis Resource Committee.

Thesis: mentoring starts in Case Studies and then mentorship shifts to reader. Refer to Timeline of Important Thesis Dates at back of Case Studies syllabus. Kevin/Heather will track changes to Thesis Handbook and send a copy to Case Studies Faculty to use with students next Thursday, deadline Friday.

Saul has too many students (ILCs and theses) and wants to pass off Emily Passereli’s internship (Bees). Also wants to pass up Josh Christy’s ILC. And an R contract.

Booklist for ESS and RDQM: student preparation-do they take it seriously? It could’ve been worse!

Next Meeting: Wednesday October 6 10-12 Faculty Meeting; Wednesday October 26 10-12 Thesis Discussion; Wednesday November 30 10-12 Thesis Discussion