Advisory Board of Deans Meeting
Fall 2023

Date/Time: Nov. 28, 2023 | 3:30-5:00 p.m.
Location: EarthLab Conference Room (909 NE Boat Street) or ZOOM

Purpose

● Connect the Board of Deans to EarthLab work
● Brief on the Fifth National Climate Assessment
● Discuss how to further engage the UW Climate Community

Attendees

● Joel Baker
● Renee Cheng (Zoom)
● Leslie Cornick (Zoom)
● Hilary Godwin (Zoom)
● Frank Hodge
● Jodi Sandfort (Zoom)
● Brinda Sarathy (Zoom)
● Michael Spencer
● Maya Tolstoy
● Mia Tuan
● Jihui Yang
● Maria Anguiano (Zoom)
● Leann Andrews (Zoom)
● Jeremy Hess
● Constance McBarron (Zoom)
● Ben Packard
● Anastasia Ramey
● Crystal Raymond

AGENDA

Meeting began: 3:33

Welcome by Maya Tolstoy acknowledging Brinda Sarathy and Michael Spencer’s first official meeting on this board.

Innovation Grant Spotlight on Tres Comunidades, Un Río
The Deans heard from Leann Andrews, the PI on an interdisciplinary team that produced an international art exhibit as an output of their Innovation Grant. This exhibit is free and open to the public at Gould Hall Gallery through Dec. 15. Leann thanked her many team members and was appreciative of EarthLab for the unique, flexible funding that made true partnership and this outcome possible. Leann is planning to visit Iquitos in the near future to share findings with decision makers.
EarthLab Updates
The EarthLab core team shared high level updates on grants, student programs, events and engagement efforts. The Deans learned about the new 1-credit winter seminar EarthLab is co-teaching with the Program on the Environment and there was a brief discussion of EarthLab partnering with other units in the future.

Briefing: National Climate Assessment 5 (NCA5)
Representatives from two EarthLab member organizations were voluntary contributors to the recently published Fifth National Climate Assessment (NCA5). Jeremy Hess (Director, Center for Health and the Global Environment (Air Quality Chapter)) and Crystal Raymond (Research Scientist, Climate Impacts Group (Northwest Chapter)) shared top messages from the report. The deans were curious about the process, how to engage people who did not participate, and how to translate the work to policy makers.

DISCUSS: EarthLab Efforts to Activate UW Climate Community
One year after the UW Sparking Climate Connections, the EarthLab team is scoping additional ways to further engage the community of faculty, researchers and staff working on climate across all of our campuses. With the NCA5 context, the team asked for feedback on what additional convenings or training should EarthLab facilitate? The team also asked what the deans were hearing from administrative and faculty levels for opportunities for deeper climate engagement in general?

The deans shared several ideas for EarthLab to pursue, with a lot of excitement around the possibility of activating the student community. There was also discussion of how to recognize and unite the distinct student populations between the Bothell, Tacoma and Seattle campuses. Some deans recognized that there are many faculty who may not see their work directly related to environmental justice but actually are connected, so EarthLab has an opportunity to bring them into these conversations.

Closing
EarthLab executive director Ben Packard closed out the meeting thanking everyone for their continued support and thanked the speakers for sharing their time and expertise with this group.

Meeting adjourned: 4:58