

Lee, Lori

From: Pio, Margaret Autele
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 11:57 AM
To: ECU Official
Subject: Interim Director - Institute for Interdisciplinary Coastal Science & Policy



Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research & Graduate Studies
East Carolina University
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Deirdre M. Mageean, PhD
Vice Chancellor
mageeand@ecu.edu

TO: ECU Community
FROM: Deirdre M. Mageean
Vice Chancellor
DATE: August 27, 2007
RE: Interim Director, Institute for Interdisciplinary Coastal Science & Policy

I am pleased to announce that Dr. Steve Culver has agreed to serve as the Interim Director of the Institute for Interdisciplinary Coastal Science & Policy (IICSP) during the current academic year. Steve is well respected, both as a chair at this university and as a scientist with an international reputation. He has been a key member of the team which worked hard to develop IICSP and has played an important and strategic role in ECU's relation with the UNC Coastal Studies Institute. I am confident of his ability to steer IICSP during its first critical year, and to provide the right combination of scientific and administrative leadership.

Steve will continue to serve as chair of Geology but will be ably supported by an assistant chair in that department.

During the year, the search for a permanent director will continue.

Please join me in thanking Steve for assuming this important role. Your help and support for him will be vital as we move forward.

Lee, Lori

From: Rigsby, Catherine
Sent: Tuesday, August 07, 2007 2:18 PM
To: Taggart, Mark Alan
Cc: Lee, Lori; Martinez, Purificacion
Subject: FW: IICSP Director Position news

Mark et al.,

Now that the original IICSP search is over and, according to this message, the "search committee" has met and decided that the position should be re-advertised, is it appropriate for the search committee to remain intact (Especially given all the difficulties with it last year)? Or, is it more appropriate to disband the original search committee and start fresh (getting it right from the beginning this time). This is especially timely because classes will begin soon and faculty will be back on campus to participate . . .

I really don't know the answer to these questions, but thought they were worth asking . . .

Catherine

-----Original Message-----

From: Gemperline, Paul
Sent: Tuesday, August 07, 2007 2:03 PM
To: Gemperline, Paul; Culver, Steve; Christian, Robert R; Clough, Lisa; Brinson, Mark M; Corbett, D. Reide; Edwards, Bob; Ericson, Richard E.; Feldbush, Thomas; Fridgen, Joseph; Gares, Paul; Griffith, David Craig; Johnson, Jeffrey C; Jolls, Claudia; King, Lauriston; Kruse, Jamie L.; Maril, Lee; Mitchelson, Ron; Palmer, Mike; Queen, William H; Rigsby, Catherine; Rulifson, Roger; Runyan, Tim; Snyder, Scott; West, Terry L; 'Nancy White'; Woods, Terri L; Wang, Yong; Babits, Lawrence; Gibson, James E; Mangun, William Russell; Vogel song, Hans; Stanley, Donald W
Cc: Fridgen, Joseph; Clough, Lisa; Reyes, Enrique; Walsh, J.P.; Johnson, Jeffrey C; Culver, Steve; Brinson, Mark M; Babits, Lawrence; Kruse, Jamie L.; Lee, Lori; Taggart, Mark Alan; Hawkins, Mary
Subject: IICSP Director Position news

Dear members of the campus community,

Please see the following note from Michael Orbach about his decision to withdraw his name from consideration in the search for a Director of the Institute for Interdisciplinary Coastal Science and Policy. As you will see, his reasons for withdrawing are more about new opportunities at Duke rather than concerns about IICSP.

The Search Committee met today and has outlined a plan to aggressively seek additional candidates for this position. The search committee will begin this task in earnest at the beginning of the next week. We plan to re-advertise the position very early this fall semester.

Dr. Paul J. Gemperline
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August 15, 2007

Dr. Deirdre Mageean
Dr. Paul Gemperline
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Dear Deirdre and Paul,

After a great deal of thought and deliberation, I have decided to decline your kind offer to return to East Carolina University (ECU) to continue the discussion of my application for the position of Director of the Institute for Interdisciplinary Coastal Science and Policy (IICSP). As I elaborate below, I have tremendous admiration and respect for the coastal and marine program at ECU, and believe you are on basically the right and productive course with your proposal for the new Institute.

The major factors in my decision involved my situation here at Duke much more than yours at ECU. After a decade as Director of the Duke Marine Lab, I have now settled back into my former professorial research, teaching and policy development roles and have re-assumed the Directorship of our Coastal Environmental Management Program. I have already begun two new major research projects that will take me to field sites in Belize, Brazil, Fiji, Panama and the Western Pacific and Southeast Asia over the next few years, and late last spring took on two new Ph.D. students (the first since I became Director of the Marine Lab in 1998). My colleague Larry Crowder and I are contracted to write a new graduate textbook in Marine Conservation. I have, in collaboration with our new Marine Lab Director Cindy Van Dover, assumed the responsibility for the development of a new spring semester Sophomore Focus program in which selected students will spend the spring semester at the Marine Lab, cruise on the R/V CORWITH CRAMER, visit Washington, D.C. etc. Thus my post-Marine Lab Director life has blossomed much more fully and quickly than I thought it might as of early last spring when I applied for your position.

I do have some thoughts regarding your Institute which I will be brazen enough to share with you here. Had I continued in my discussions with you, I would have raised several points regarding your proposal and the role of the new Director.

First, although you have committed an admirable amount of resources to the new Institute, the configuration of those resources might need some attention. For example, I believe that the potential for success of the new Institute would be significantly enhanced if ALL joint faculty in the Institute (CRM and ICMR) had principal offices in contiguous IICSP space along with the Director, staff and graduate students. This would involve a significantly larger commitment of space than we had discussed, and it should be contiguous space. Had I become Director I would have insisted on this, originally in whatever space could be made available, and eventually in a new building completely dedicated to the Institute for which I would have been happy to raise the money.



NICHOLAS SCHOOL OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND EARTH SCIENCES
DUKE UNIVERSITY

DUKE UNIVERSITY MARINE LABORATORY

My second set of comments involves the structure and placement of the position and Institute themselves. I believe that you are close to having the level of activity and resources that would make consideration of a School for Coastal Science and Policy at ECU appropriate. This is especially true since the Institute would involve a major curricular program, the CRM Ph.D. Program. A School would be a much more appropriate organization form for housing curricular programs, which I would think would eventually have significant Masters and Bachelors level programs as well. I do not think the system at ECU is necessarily ready at the moment for such a proposal, but you should clearly be thinking in that direction.

My third set of comments is directed towards the duties and responsibilities of your new Director, and clearly reflects my own proclivities. Had I assumed the Directorship, as I discussed with both of you, I would have insisted on access, through the proper channels, to ECU's major donor list and the ability to work closely with your development people to cultivate and develop that list further for support for coastal and marine studies. The direction I would have taken the Institute would not have been primarily inward-directed at ECU, but also significantly outward-directed towards relationships with other institutions such as the Coastal Studies Institute, the newly-remodeled Ocracoke Island facility, and relationships with other academic and policy organizations throughout the Western Atlantic but with a focus on Eastern North Carolina. You already have the beginnings of such relationships, but I believe they could be made much stronger and more durable through the new Institute. All of this will take both personal skills and significant organizational support, both in principle and in access to significant financial resources beyond those currently identified in your Institute plan. Your new Director must have the ability and flexibility to find and cultivate those resources.

Let me close by saying that I am extremely impressed by the coastal and marine studies program that you have already developed at ECU, and by the aggressive proposal you have put forth for the new Institute. I believe whoever occupies the Director position will find an excellent group of colleagues, a supportive administration, and an important challenge to be met. I will honestly say that I stand ready to assist you in any way with the development of your fine program.

Sincerely,

Michael K. Orbach
Professor of Marine Affairs and Policy and
Director, Coastal Environmental Management
Program