

Department Meeting

March 3, 2015

Agenda

- Department meeting schedule 2015
- Student Feedback
- Safety update - Marita
- Committees & chairs 2015
- Athena SWAN - Rob L.
- Sustainability update - Sam
- Curriculum review
- Nature writing workshop - Rachael
- Our next appointments - discussion

Department meeting schedule 2015

- Informal meetings - first Tuesday of the Month
 - April 7, May 5, June 2
- Formal Department meetings
 - June 29, resolution of SEM1 marks
 - November 30, resolution of SEM2 marks

Student Feedback

- SEM1: 14 units surveyed, but only 7 returned statistically valid results
- SEM2: 14 units surveyed, but only 5 returned statistically valid results

Department WHS Update

3.3.15

New Chair of Biology WHS committee

Liette Vandine

What happens to Marita?



2015 Risk Management Plan

- Consultation phase for the Risk management plan for the research labs in E8 and the Hill ended 29th February.
- Lab Supervisors it is important that you ensure that any control measures in that document are in place and are followed.

2015 Lab Inspections

- Now open!
- Contact me to arrange a time
- Aim is to have them all done by end of July
- Two very good lab inspections already completed.
- Well Done! Culum and Michelle Leishman

2014 Office Inspections

Thank you to all the people;

- who did them properly
- who made funny comments
- who didn't do them

2015 Office Inspections

- Try something different
- Biology WHS committee is going to inspect offices
- Office inspection checklist has been sent out
- What you can do to help with the process

Have your office in good order!

Dead giveaways

- Items stored up high
- Clutter
- Electrical spaghetti
- Untagged leads

Save the Date

Biology Safety Initiative for 2015

- Safety Fair
- One day only
- Focusing on Health

30th September

11am to 2pm

Committees

Committee	Chair
Curriculum	Michelle Power
Boating and Diving	Matt Kosnik*
HDR	Adam Stow*
Research	Simon Griffith
Prizes and Awards	Rob Harcourt
Enrolment	Darrell Kemp
Field Work	Martin Whiting
Glasshouses	Ian Wright*
Masters	Grant Hose
Industry Development*	Phil Taylor
Executive Group	Mariella Herberstein
Safety	Liette Vandine*

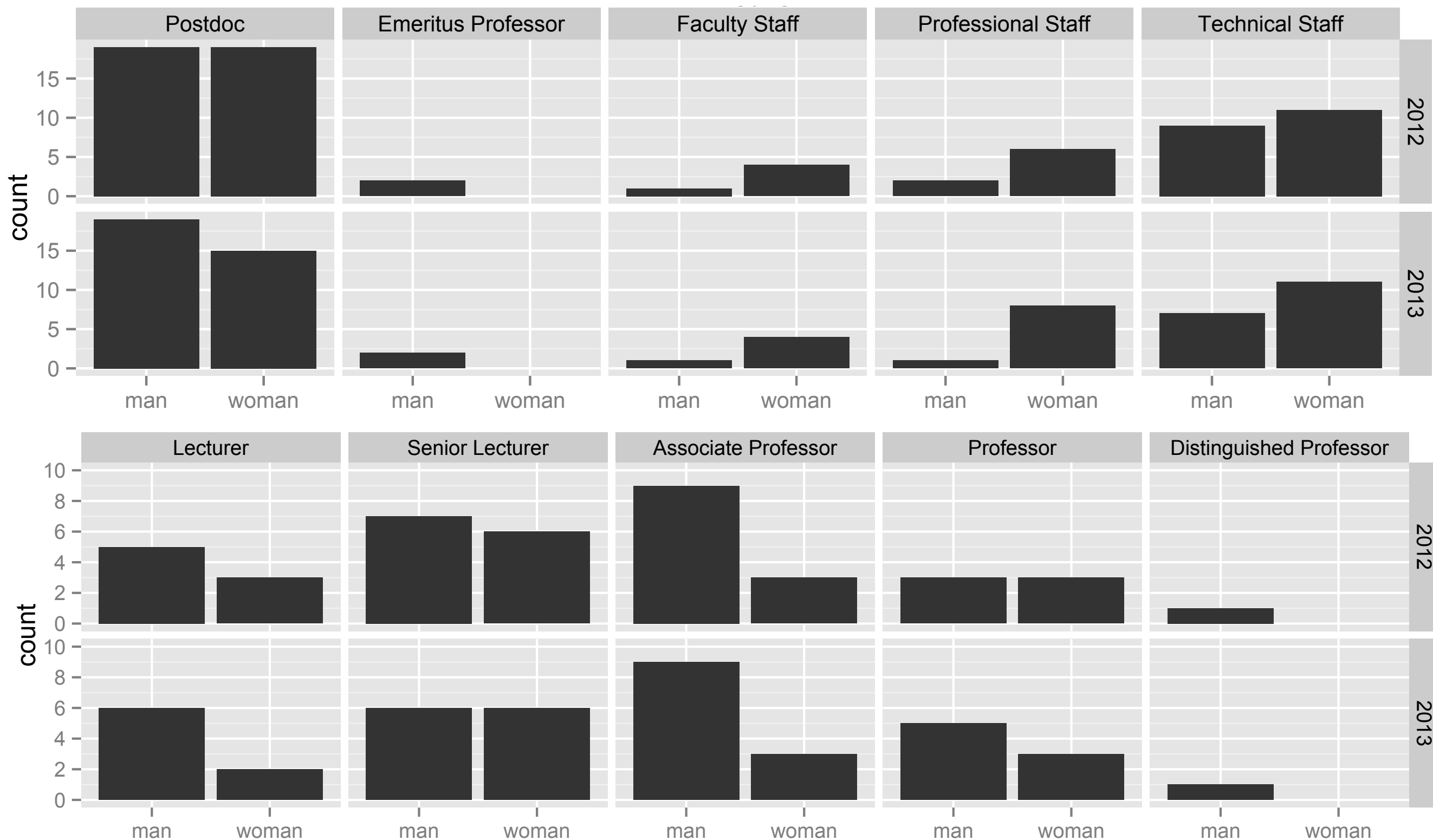
Committees

- How do I join a committee?
 - Talk to chair or HOD
- How do I become a committee chair?
 - Chairs progress from standing committee members
 - Chairs rotate every 3-4 years

Athena SWAN

- <http://www.ecu.ac.uk/equality-charter-marks/athena-swan/>

Athena SWAN



Sustainability Update

- Clean-up Campus Event
- Volunteering Days
- Harvest Hub

Curriculum Review

- Created working parties to look at groups of units
- 1-3 meetings to define units, their broad content, who will teach it, what semester, learning outcomes, connections to other units....
- Developed a handy form to guide working groups

Working groups

- 100 level - **Michelle P**, Lesley, Michael, Leanne, Ken, Mariella, Mel, Adam, Rob L, Matt, Brian
- Organismal Biology - **Michelle L**, Martin, Mariella, Lesley, Brian, Andy, Darrell, Culum, Ian, Phil, Simon, Dave R, Julia, Kate, Rob H.
- Genetics & evolution - **Darrell**, Adam, Rob L, Michael, Simon, John, Jenny, Glen, Andy
- Ecology & Ecosystems - **Mel**, Linda, Michelle L., Lesley, Ian, Dave N, Grant, Jane, Josh, Drew, Rob H, Matt, Mark, Leanne
- Skills & capstones: **Drew**, Michael, Leanne, Mariella, Mel, Jane, Grant, Josh

NATURE Masterclass

One-day workshop with editors of journals in the Nature Publishing Group

WHAT MAKES A NATURE PAPER?

- "A discovery" that moves understanding forward
- "Revisions to our framework of understanding"
 - resolves some known problem, does more than just continues/ adds to one side of a debate, but reconciles it with strong conclusion
- "Novel mechanistic insight"
 - if we knew how this thing worked, would be a great candidate for useful applications / opening further research
 - immediate clinical relevance
- "Resource value"
 - will fuel future research, e.g A human gut microbial gene catalogue established by metagenomics sequencing

NATURE Masterclass

What are the most important things you can do to maximise your chances?

- Broad audience appeal – to those in your dept (and beyond if possible)
- Write a strong cover letter
- Let go of your expectations and get critical feedback from those outside the author list (most useful aspect of the day for many)
- Appeal a decision (if you have grounds)
- Choose your co-authors wisely

Lateral transfer of papers to Nature Open access journals

- obvious push to get papers into others journals in the NPG stable
- May be open-access (costly) but also has Nature in the name and the impact factor
- Second-tier Nature journals – what is our philosophy on this as a dept

Our next appointments

- Department review: 2 senior appointments in plant biology
- Loss of Belinda
- Still 2 fixed term positions that need to be converted to to continuous positions
- Total: 3-5 position in the next 2-3 years
- New staff: Rachael Dudaniec (landscape genomics); Jennifer Hallinan (bioinformatics); Nathan Hart (neurophysiology)

Gap analysis

	Animals	Plants	Microbiology	Ecology	Behaviour	Evolution	Physiology	Genetics Genomics	Cell Biology	Climate	Paleobiology
Ken Cheng	█				█						
Michael Gillings			█			█		█			
Robert Harcourt	█			█	█						
Sandy Harrison										█	█
Lesley Hughes				█						█	
Colin Prentice										█	
David Raftos	█		█					█	█	█	
Mark Westoby		█		█		█					
Brian Atwell		█					█				
Glenn Brock	█					█					█
Culum Brown	█			█	█	█					
Jenny Donald	█							█			
Simon Griffith	█			█	█	█	█	█			
Grant Hose	█			█			█				
Michelle Leishman		█		█						█	
Belinda Medlyn		█					█			█	
Adam Stow	█			█	█	█		█			
Phil Taylor	█			█	█	█					
Martin Whiting	█			█	█	█					
Drew Allen	█	█		█		█	█			█	█
Leanne Armand		█	█	█						█	█
Andrew Barron	█			█	█	█	█				
Melanie Bishop	█	█		█	█					█	
Jennifer Clarke	█			█	█	█					
Darrell Kemp	█				█	█		█			
Michelle Power	█		█					█			
Julia Raftos	█						█				
Jane Williamson	█			█	█	█	█			█	
Linda Beaumont	█	█		█						█	
John Alroy	█			█		█					█
Matthew Kosnik	█			█		█					█
Joshua Madin	█			█							
Ian Wright		█		█		█					
Rob Lanfear	█	█				█		█			
Mariella Herberstein	█			█	█	█					

Our next appointments

- Discussion with the Department's Professoriate
- Come up with the following suggestions
 - Plant Ecology - Senior (D/E)
 - Plant Biology - Junior (B/C)
 - Conservation Biology (any area, could be animals, plants, physiology, whole organism)
 - Genomics (plant, animal, fungus)
 - Evolutionary Medicine