

Minutes of the Spring 2016

Meeting of the SPC Biology/Biotechnology Advisory Board

Date: Wednesday May 25th 2016

Location: Clearwater campus NM 207

Meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM

Advisory Board Chair, Dr. Guy Bradley will lead the meeting today.

Goal of today's meeting is to understand the specific duties of the Biology/Biotechnology Advisory Committee and to begin developing/implementing a plan to fulfill these duties

SPC staff Advisory Board ex officio members:

Kathy Siegler - Natural Science professor and instructor in charge of AS Biotechnology program.

Linda Gingerich – Chair Baccalaureate Biology Program

Michelle Osovitz - Baccalaureate Biology professor

Joseph Benavides – Career Services

Advisory Board members:

Guy Bradley - PI TRBI - Biomedical Research, Advisory Board Chair

Akiko Tanaka – President of TBRI

Steve Harper – Director, Natural and Historical Resources Mgmt., Pinellas County Dept. Parks and Recreation

Old Business - None noted

Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting

The chair provided an overview of the minutes and made a motion to approve them. This motion was seconded by Akiko Tanaka and were approved.

Open Issues

1. AS Biotech Program
 - a. Program start date – the website lists the program start date as Summer 2016. However, there are students that have been enrolled since the Fall 2015. The problem is administrative and is based upon a change in the Florida Career and Technical Education frameworks, which shifted the AS Biotechnology Laboratory Technician degree from manufacturing to health sciences. Currently there are three students that have been enrolled in the program since the Fall 2015. There are five students enrolled in the summer Introduction to Biotechnology course.
 - b. Advertisement – SPC website is up and running. The board thanks Dr. Shablott for his contribution to the video and for providing SPC access to his laboratory. Additional advertising is needed. Joe Benavides will make sure that the Biotech flyer is widely distributed and work with the health sciences center to identify students that might benefit from this degree program. It would also be helpful if there were a direct link to the AS Biotech website from the college's homepage. Kathy Siegler continues to participate in Clearwater campus events that promote the program. Joe Benavides will check into the possibility of a mass email to prospective students alerting them to the program.
 - c. Lab space – Most of the renovations have been completed and the lab is functional. Additional modifications that will be done in the future include audio visual equipment, a larger sink and direct access to the lab. The progress on completing these renovations will be reported at the Fall 2016 advisory board meeting.
 - d. Feed back from first course offerings (BSC2420 Introduction to Biotechnology and BSC2426C Biotechnology Methods I). Both courses were offered in the Fall 2015, three students continued on with the spring classes (BSC2847 Scientific Communication and BSC2427C Biotechnology Methods II). The low enrollment in these classes requires a reduction in the instructor ECH. This is requiring instructors to take on additional classes to meet their semester base ECH. This will

continue to be problematic. The college administration requested that this program be developed and should better support the program.

2. BS Biology Program

- a. Lack of full time faculty and lab prep assistance – this is a follow up on the letter sent to Dr. Law on behalf of the advisory board. Dr. Law's response was discussed and since there has been no communication to the advisory board as to the review by Dr. Law or college personnel the advisory board will follow up with additional correspondence. There continues to be a lack of available qualified adjuncts and enrollment in the program is still increasing.
- b. Dr. Gingerich is asking for board members to submit to her a list of all possible internship experiences, as well as special topics course suggestions. This will allow the college to be more specific as to the course topic on the student's transcript. The list would give students the opportunity to plan out their course of study based upon their interests.

New Business

1. Countryside HS articulation agreement – Dean Chapin and Kathy Siegler visited Countryside HS on May 4th to tour their biotechnology program. We are working on an articulation agreement that would allow students that complete the coursework and pass the BACE (Biotechnician Assistant Credentialing Exam) to receive credit for BSC2420 Introduction to Biotechnology and BSC2426C Biotechnology Methods I.
2. Tour of Biotech and Baccalaureate Biology laboratories in SS-136.

Next meeting Fall semester of 2016.

Date to be determined.

Meeting adjourned at 4:33 PM

Attachments: Advisory Board Chair letter to Dr. Law, Dr. Law's response.