

ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY

Minutes of Meeting

DATE/TIME: March 27, 2015 / 12 noon

LOCATION: Seminole Campus, University Partnership Center, Room 301

ATTENDEES: Mary Campbell, Christopher Cole, Sandy DeCarlo, Amanda Gilleland, Irvin Kety, Ray Gorman, George Kish, Maura Scanlon, Jacob Wortock

DATE ISSUED: March 30, 2015

The following is a recap of the items discussed and agreed upon at the meeting regarding the SPC Environmental Science Technology Advisory Committee. This is a summary of the writer's interpretation of the meeting. Unless advised in writing to the contrary, it is assumed that those in attendance are in agreement with the statements as set forth and work will proceed on this basis. If you have clarifications you wish to make, please contact Maura Scanlon via e-mail at scanlon.maura@spcollege.edu or telephone at 727-394-6947. Thank you.

Item No.	Description or Comments
1	<i>Welcome</i> – Everyone in attendance introduced themselves and the meeting was brought to order by Chairman Irvin Kety
2	<i>Approval of April Minutes</i> - Approval of Sept 2014 meeting minutes by George Kish and seconded by Christopher Cole
3.	<i>Environmental Science Technology update</i> - Sandy DeCarlo provided information about enrollment for the program – in the 2013/2014 school year, 169 students were enrolled, and in 2014/2015, 193 students are enrolled. There is a fairly even distribution of students in the sub-plans: 60 for Natural Resources & Energy Mgmt, 75 in Sustainability, 53 in Water Resources, and 5 undeclared. It was also relayed that a majority of the students in the program are older – 51 students aged 26-35, and 59 students aged 36+.
3	There was discussion about trying to track what careers or experiences these older students are coming to school with; Irv Kety interjected computer applications are important (spreadsheets, word processing); SPC's 3 credit computer applications course would be beneficial to students more so than the 1 credit option.
4	<i>Old Business</i> -Maura Scanlon relayed that she became a trainer for The FL DEP Stormwater, Erosion, and Sedimentation Control Inspector Certification and the training would be offered this coming May, with preference given to SPC students
5	Another certification is also being looked at for integration into Sustainability and Natural Resources sub-plans related to Energy Efficiency Auditing
6	<i>New Business</i> - Maura explained upcoming changes to the courses within the degree program due to changes related to the science requirement for the AA – beginning Spr 2016, EVS 1001 Intro to Enviro Sustainability will incorporate a lab portion into the course, and ESC 1000/1000L Earth Science/Earth Science Lab is being combined (and moving from a combined 4 credits to 3 credits). To make up for the deficit of 1 credit, a new course has been added: Special Issues in Enviro Science, that will consist of various and different industry certification each time it is offered

7	Ray Gorman indicated Pinellas Technical College also offers a number of industry certifications- suggested next possible certifications of Stormwater Mgmt Inspector, FEMA certifications; Irv suggested NIMS certifications, other FL DEP certifications including lead and/or asbestos abatement, GIS; Mary Campbell suggested GI-BMPs; Irv also suggested contacting various unions to promote certifications available
8	Maura also brought up the need for qualified instructors for these certifications, and anyone who is or know if anyone is interested and qualified please contact Chair Amanda Gilleland
9	<i>Employment Trends</i> - Ray suggested that survey work is growing with increased construction in area and may be able to transfer some equipment from Pinellas Technical College not in use to SPC for courses. George Kish suggested trying to incorporate more of these skills in coursework, noting possibly use of survey instruments for the habitat park.
10	Further discussion about jobs indicated that environmental engineering companies, geotechnical companies, environmental testing companies are where students may find jobs; Sandy relayed it is often difficult to find out what companies are hiring due to various job titles. Mary Campbell advised that the county RFPs for bidding are usually public record, and perhaps this could be a valuable resource for students
11	Irv suggested many job opportunities can often be found in industry journals, professional organizations – many organizations have student membership options for reduced prices; the APWA provides regular publications to its members with current trends and job listings online; Christopher Cole commented students would benefit if they had information on specific jobs so they can focus their efforts and take better advantage of opportunities that may eventually lead to employment
12	<i>Co-op opportunities</i> - Jacob Wortock indicated students have been able to find co-ops, and the ultimate goal is to try to find co-ops that may end up hiring students after they graduate. Ray indicated at Pinellas Technical College that they have incorporated mock interviews to better prepare their students
13	Irv indicated future possible intern opportunities may be coming if restore act grant money is awarded to various projects; George indicated some interns at USGS may be needed to address the various issues occurring due to climate change
14	<i>Open Forum</i> – Maura informed the group about the proposed apiary for the Seminole campus; Mary informed everyone about upcoming events with Pinellas County Extension including screening of Tiny: A Story about Living Small on Apr 23, and a Hydroponics workshop on Apr 11. Ray relayed information about a C License course starting on Apr 11 th and running through August, the upcoming American Public Works Association Expo in Daytona Apr 19-23 (next year's expo scheduled for Tampa), and Public Works Week is starting May 20 th
15	<i>Next Meeting Date</i> – Sept 24 th Seminole Campus, Conference Center 7:30-9am followed by Breakfast at 9-10:30am
	Meeting adjourned at 1:35pm