

# ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE

## Minutes of Meeting

**DATE/TIME:** February 28, 2019

**LOCATION:** SPC Epicenter, Room 2-306

**ATTENDEES:** DeAnna Brooks, Paul Cozzie, Ivy Drexler, Rick Gilbert, Amanda Gilleland, Ray Gorman, Irvin Kety, George Lloyd, Natavia Middleton, Maura Scanlon, Lynne Wolf

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Waunda Barcus, Chris Kenrick, Kelli Levy, Rachel Schalles, Jamie McWade, Patricia West

**DATE ISSUED:** March 4, 2019

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> – The meeting was brought to order by Maura Scanlon at approximately 9:15 am
2	<i>Introductions</i> – Attendees introduced themselves
3	<i>Approval of Last Meeting Minutes</i> - Approval of March meeting minutes by Rick Gilbert, seconded by Amanda Gilleland
4	<i>Environmental Science Technology Program Updates</i> – Maura Scanlon provided updates on enrollment in the AS Environmental Science Technology degree program, noting enrollment is declining in the two subplans (Environmental Resources and Sustainability) as they are being phased out, as enrollment has been increasing in the two remaining subplans (Water Resources & Environmental Resource Conservation). Also noted was a majority of students enrolled in this program are part time (77%) and over half are in the age range of 22-35 (51%)
5	<i>Career Services</i> - Lynne Wolf spoke about career services at SPC, including growing use of Handshake, a job posting site, and development of a badging system to highlight student achievement in “soft-skill” areas – developed with NACE (Nat’l Assoc of Colleges and Employers). Lynne also distributed information about upcoming career service workshops and updated contact information.
6	Irv Kety stressed the importance of soft skills, and critical thinking in job candidates, and Rick Gilbert added he values these soft skills in the work environment as well, noting sometimes these skills come through life experience, and working with SPC internship coordinators has been a fruitful experience. Ray Gorman also emphasized how important it is to make sure employers have a good experience with interns, so they continue to take them.
7	George Lloyd spoke about his program Starfish STEM Academy that works with Jr. High School girls in an afterschool capacity, and how it would be beneficial for his students to hear about importance of these soft skills. Ray Gorman inquired how

	SPC incorporates these into curriculum, and both Maura and Amanda indicated students in face to face classes often receive more instruction and practice with these soft skills than students who take more classes online.
8	<i>Partnership with SPC Workforce Institute</i> – Maura spoke about building a “crosswalk” between Workforce Institute (non-credit) to the credit side for GIS courses offered at the Workforce Institute
9	<i>AACC/NSF MentorLinks Grant</i> – Amanda spoke about the latest goals of the Mentorlinks Grant, which is developing a proposal for applying for the next grant. Feedback was requested about the idea of adding another subplan / certification program for GIS, which would include advanced GIS and remoting sensing
10	Ray stated there would be value in this program, as it would be applicable to public works, and Paul Cozzie remarked that enterprise real estate management as well as parks and natural resources are increasing wanting field level technicians to have GIS experience and can use it to move up
11	Rick and Irv complemented SPC and its programming, as it has generally produced well-rounded graduates, and has come along in the years they have served on the advisory committee with the additions of industry certs – DeAnna Brooks, a recent graduate of the degree program, agreed and felt her time in the program was valuable, especially the hands-on activities. Ivy Drexler also agreed with Rick that students should have a good philosophical background in environmental science to be a good fit for jobs after they graduate
12	Ray Gorman also stated he felt the SPC program was broad enough in scope, and keys to success would be to layer certification within the degree, similar to how PTC arranges their programs.
13	<i>Open Agenda</i> – Ray Gorman provided info about the upcoming APWA Expo in Daytona (Apr 15-19), and that next year it will be held at the Tampa Convention Center. Ray also mentioned FWPCOA will be having their short school in St Pete at PTC 1 <sup>st</sup> two weeks of June. Irv mentioned the FL Water Resource Conference will be in Tampa, Apr 14-18.
14	Rick provide updates on solar in Florida, and increased installation through solar so-op programs, bringing Florida’s rankings in solar installation from towards the bottom to towards the top. Rick also relayed SEIA will be having a solar power event March 12-14 in Ft. Lauderdale.
15	Paul provided information about the county currently in the hiring process for a sustainability coordinator
16	Ivy recommended SPC to look into Envision Certification through ASCE, and LEED online programs.
17	Meeting adjourned approximately 10:30am