

# Minutes of the Fall 2019

## Meeting of the SPC Biology/Biotechnology Advisory Board

Date: Thursday September 26<sup>th</sup> 2019

Location: Clearwater campus NM 207

Meeting was called to order at 5:27 PM

Advisory Board Chair, Ann McNicol will lead the meeting today.

Goal of today's meeting is an overview of status of both the AS Biotech and BS Biology programs

### **SPC staff Advisory Board ex officio members present:**

Linda Gingerich – Chair Baccalaureate Biology Program

Natavia Middleton – Dean Natural Sciences

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

Marilyn Browne – SPC Career Connections

Joe Benavides – SPC Career Service Support, Clearwater campus

### **Advisory Board members present:**

Ann McNicol – Director Biotechnology Program, Countryside High School, Committee Chair

Guy Bradley - PI TRBI - Biomedical Research

Bob Ulrich – PURE Molecular

Allison Williams – ACOS Research Bay Pines VA Healthcare System

Chelsea Knapp – Teleflex, Inc.

### **SPC staff Advisory Board ex officio members absent:**

Linae Boehme, Shannon Ulrich

### **Advisory Board members absent:**

Meghan Gentilini, Steve Harper, Michael Lambis

### **Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting**

Members were provided the minutes of the Spring 2019 meeting by email. Guy Bradley made a motion to approve the minutes. This motion was seconded by Allison Williams and the minutes were approved.

### **Introduction of New Members**

Ann McNichol, new chair

Chelsea Knapp, new member

### **Open Issues**

1. Baccalaureate Biology program
  - a. Enrollment –
    - i. Slightly elevated:
      1. Four year programs across the college is slightly down
  - b. Changes to degree program –
    - i. Subplans offer more focused electives
      1. Cell and Molecular Biology
      2. Ecology, Evolution and Organismal Biology
    - ii. Added new requirements
      1. Internship or Research credit required of all students
    - iii. Should help with scheduling
  - c. Need new faculty member –
    - i. Michelle Osovitz moved to University of Tampa

- ii. No full time faculty member that has specialization in Cell and Molecular Biology
  - iii. The board previously requested an additional faculty member in Spring 2019
- d. Certificate
  - i. Laboratory Specialist Advanced Technical Certificate with Financial Aid Eligibility (LAB-ATC)
  - ii. Students with AA or AS in Biotechnology, Health Sciences, Environmental Science or BS in Biology are eligible
  - iii. Allows students to make up deficiencies needed for employment or transition to BS with financial aid
- 2. AS Biotechnology Laboratory Technology –
  - i. Enrollment
    - 1. Currently over 20 students enrolled in introductory courses, significant increase over previous Fall semesters
      - a. BSC2420 – Introduction to Biotechnology
      - b. BSC2461 – Introduction to Biotechnology Model Systems
    - 2. Eight student are currently taking Biotech required courses
  - ii. BACE (Biotechnician Assistant Credentialing Exam)
    - 1. Traditionally a high school credential offered in Florida
    - 2. Credential is gaining acceptance nationwide
    - 3. Credential is industry validated
    - 4. Considering this as a requirement for AS Biotech students
      - a. Cost \$150 per student
      - b. Perhaps CAPE funds available
      - c. SPC may take exam at Countryside HS or SPC faculty would need to be certified to proctor the exam

## **New Business**

- 1. Student member needed
  - a. Michael Lambis has accepted employment at LifeSciences and no longer has time
- 2. Internships
  - a. Clearwater Marine Aquarium – looking for interns to work on specific research projects as well as sea turtle rescue.
  - b. Humane Society of Pinellas County – looking for interns in conjunction with behavior modification work on rescue dogs.
  - c. Pure Molecular and TBRI should have availability summer 2020.

Next meeting Spring semester of 2020.

Date to be determined.

Meeting adjourned at 6:24 PM