

Minutes of Spring 2019

SPC Baccalaureate Biology/A.S. Biotechnology Laboratory Technology Advisory Board Committee Meeting

Date: February 28, 2019

Location: EPI Center Tech campus, 2-312

SPC staff Advisory Board ex officio members present:

Natavia Middleton, Dean of Natural Sciences; Linda Gingerich, Chair Baccalaureate Biology; Michelle Osovitz, Faculty Baccalaureate Biology; Kathy Siegler, Instructor in Charge AS Biotechnology and Faculty in Natural Science; Linae Boehme, Faculty Baccalaureate Biology; Carissa Roldan, Career Services Clearwater Campus

Advisory Board members present:

Guy Bradley, PI TBRI - Biomedical Research, Advisory Board Chair; Steve Harper – Director, Natural and Historical Resources Mgmt., Pinellas County Dept. Parks and Recreation

SPC staff Advisory Board ex officio members absent:

Shannon Ulrich, Faculty in Natural Science; Ray Menard, Faculty in Natural Science; Craig Huegel, Adjunct Faculty in Natural Science; Joseph Benavides, Career Service Support – CL campus

Advisory Board members absent:

Ann McNicol, Paul Anderson, Amanda Audia, Theresa Badurek, Meghan Gentilini, Susan Gerhart, Heather Gibbs, Soichi Haraguchi, Sunil Jambhekar, Fred Perez, Akiko Tanaka, Michael Shablott, Steve Harper, Candance Ferrell, Allison Williams, Robert Ulrich, Adam Coovadia

- I. Call to order @ 5:40 PM
- II. There were not enough voting members for a quorum so items were not voted on.
- III. Internships
 - a. discussion on the need for employers to host internships had begun before the start of the meeting and continued.
 - b. more employers are needed with the requirement for baccalaureate students to either participate in research or in an internship
 - c. internships are not likely to be paid with the high cost of laboratory supplies required to host interns
 - d. a number of new possible employers was discussed and will be contacted by Kathy Siegler
- IV. Open Issues
 - a. Status of B.S. Biology Program
 - i. Stable enrollment of approximately 200 students
 - ii. more applicants with the reduced entrance requirements - students may enroll in program and complete organic chemistry (CHM2210) during their first semester
 - iii. Michelle Osovitz is leaving SPC – the advisory board strongly suggest that another full time faculty member be hired. The program is likely to suffer with continued reliance on adjunct faculty to teach courses in the new biotechnology
 - iv. Students in the program will select specific pathways: Ecology and Organismal Biology, Biotechnology Cell and Molecular, Animal Sciences/Veterinary Medical, Biomedical Sciences
 - v. Students are required to take credits in either research or an internship
 - b. Status of A.S. Biotech Program
 - i. One student will graduate in Spring 2019, Three students in Summer 2019
 - ii. Need for biotech program is difficult assess
 1. Few major companies in Pinellas County
 2. Many small start-up companies that could use technicians

3. BACE credentialing exam is used in AS programs in other states
- iii. Enrollment in beginning courses continues to be under 10 per semester (BSC2420 – Introduction to Biotechnology)
 1. Clearwater marketing has set up multiple tours of A.S. Biotech program to increase enrollment
 2. First group of Countryside students eligible for credits under the articulation agreement in Fall 2019
 - a. most students that were asked are interested in pre-professional degrees.
 - b. development of a biotech AS transfer plan to the Baccalaureate Biology degree may increase interest/enrollment
 - c. Countryside HS is developing a Collegiate Academy which may draw students away from the ISTEM academy's Biotechnology track

V. New Business

- a. Election of a Committee Chair – on hold until the next meeting

VI. Next meeting Fall semester of 2019

Date to be determined, Location off campus

VII. Adjournment 6:48 PM