

ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE

Minutes of Environmental Science Advisory committee meeting

DATE/TIME: November 8, 2019

LOCATION: SPC Seminole, Room UP-201

ATTENDEES: Theresa Afify, Sandra Davis, Amanda Gilleland, Sam Henderson, Laurel Lynch, Natavia Middleton, Maura Scanlon, Steve Soltau (called in), Sean Williams (called in), Jacob Wortock

MEMBERS NOT ATTENDING: Waunda Barcus, Ivy Drexler, Shea Dunifon, Richard Gilbert, Ray Gorman, Irvin Kety, Kelli Levy

DATE ISSUED: November 12, 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 Amanda Gilleland via e-mail at gilleland.amanda@spcollege.edu or telephone at 727-394-6024. Thank you.

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION OR COMMENTS
1	<i>Welcome</i> – The meeting was brought to order by Amanda Gilleland at approximately 2:07 pm.
2	<i>Introductions</i> – Attendees introduced themselves
3	<i>Environmental Science Technology New Brochure</i> – Amanda Gilleland provided copies of the new updated brochure and asked for feedback. The new brochure includes the two program plans with the courses the students need to take. Natavia Middleton offered a few suggestions for the brochure to improve its overall appearance and usefulness.
4	<i>Internships</i> – It was suggested something about Internships be added to the flyer. Jacob Wortock spoke about how they are continually working to grow potential internships. Natavia Middleton asked Sam Henderson what internships they offer at the City of Gulfport, and he mentioned three internships; Information Technology, Library and Senior Center. He also mentioned that Public works, Marina and Leisure Services were his suggestions to add next. Jacob Wortock mentioned he met with Pinellas County officials and they told him they too were looking for Interns. It was asked if there are any paid internships through any companies and Jacob stated there were, with SPC covering the insurance for these positions and the employer paying the salary.

5	<p><i>Chairperson for Advisory Committee</i> – Amanda Gilleland mentioned they are looking to find a new Chairperson for the Advisory Board. They person cannot be a full-time college employee. She will be sending out an email to follow-up to see if anyone is interested.</p>
6	<p><i>Program Plans for the Environmental Science Program</i> - Amanda Gilleland mentioned that the 3-year grant is almost over. In light of this, the program has been streamlined and reduced the program plans to two (Water Resource Management and Environmental Resources Conservation) as well as several of the courses have been re-written. The remaining money from the grant has been moved to equipment and has enabled them to purchase items for the Environmental Analysis course. Further, they are in discussions to potentially create a GIS certificate. A GIS grant may be pursued as well. Natavia Middleton added that the pursuit of a GIS certificate is a great idea because of the great demand of it, however she cautioned they must remain cognizant of how many credit hours it is. She also mentioned that it is a course that can be used by students who are pursuing a BS of Biology.</p>
7	<p><i>Bar Basics</i> – Biomimicry research lab - Sean Williams spoke briefly to describe his company's latest projects. They are working on a joint venture to create products that fit in with Bio Medics, biomimicry in architectures and urban development Research (Sea wall Development, Bioluminescence Lighting, etc.). They are working on raising funds to recruit partners to help work on research etc. Sam Henderson Mentioned that the city of Gulfport might be interested in getting involved.</p>
8	<p><i>Program Data</i> – Theresa Afify presented a slide show about the numbers and demographics of students this semester in the Environmental Program. Overall the numbers have decreased a little bit. The head count by course has decreased as well as the course completion rate. In the fall the percentage of female students was higher than male students, the average age of students in the program was 30, and the overwhelming majority of students was Caucasian. There was some discussion on ways to work to try and diversify the program.</p>
9	<p>Night with Science Event – Jacob Wortock spoke about the success of the Night with Science Event that was held on 10/18/19. He said it had a collection of different companies set up as a networking event and it had a great turn-out. Sandra Davis attended the event and said it was an awesome experience and very helpful. She highly recommends it.</p>
10	<p>Meeting adjourned approximately 3:05 pm</p>