

BESC Professional Board
Meeting Minutes
April 10, 2015

ATTENDEES: Bryan Gay, Michael Jochum, Brian Gottschalk, Joe Etheridge, Jim Formby, Doug Anderson, Jeremy Hanzlik, Craig Holloway, Craig Pritzlaff, David Edge, Laura Fiffick, Candice Boeck, Michael Jochum, (13 present – quorum met), Sandy Pierson, Heather Wilkinson, Dan Ebbole, and Linda Brochu

1. Meeting Called to Order by Chair Pritzlaff (10:20 AM) at Anderson Ranch, Wimberley, TX
 - A. Contact List passed around and updated
 - B. Approval of previous meeting minutes with changes:
 - September 12, 2014 minutes - Item 3 B listed “Michael Denena” as a member of the Student Development & Mentoring Committee. Correction should be Michael Jochum and Melissa Denena; Brian Gottschalk is listed on SDM committee and is actually on the Faculty and BESC Curriculum Committee
 - December 5, 2014 minutes – Item 2 B need to correct name of college to College of Agriculture & Life Sciences; Item 2 C need to correct URS Externship date from January 15, 2016 to January 15, 2015
 - (i) Motion to approve September 12, 2014 as amended – Seconded & Approved
 - (ii) Motion to approve December 5, 2014 as amended – Seconded & Approved
2. Committee Updates
 - A. FDOM: Financial Development, Outreach, Marketing (Doug Anderson, Chair)
 - (i) Doug Anderson reported that the Excellence Fund book value is now \$37,700 with \$627 available cash.
 - (ii) Heather Wilkinson, Doug Anderson & Jeremy Hanzlik met with Jon Rigelski (interim Foundation Development Officer)
 - (iii) Our current Development Officer, Cara Milligan, has left for another position. Recently Jennifer Burnett has been hired as a new DO and may be assigned to us.
 - (iv) Literature for fundraising is being developed by the department. Samples were provided for review. Include an overview brochure with various inserts that can be added as needed for different purposes. Also, a Proposal form that can be rapidly tailored to a specific request was shared. Finalization of these brochures a major early summer priority.
 - (v) Discussion as to how best to prepare request for corporate support. Laura Fiffick indicated that her company must prioritize among its many annual requests, so how a request is couched and what the company would get in return is critical. She offered to assist in the development of a more effective request document.
 - (vi) Suggestion was made to go to local Aggie groups such as the local muster, to network.
 - (vii) Announcement of possible new building for the department. Agreements are in place between the College of Agriculture & Life Sciences, Provost, and College of Engineering; next step is to get funding approvals. If successful, there will be opportunities to raise

funds for “naming opportunities” for conference rooms, meeting rooms, possible classrooms and teaching laboratories etc. in the new building.

- (viii) Jeremy Hanzlik discussed the newsletter—it was determined that due to logistical issues it should only be distributed once a year in January. Jeremy will gather articles from Board Members and work with Heather Wilkinson. Ongoing need to good pictures and articles. Possibility of highlighting specific members discussed.
- (ix) Suggestion made to consider departmental and Board participation in the Spring Parent’s Weekend activities (this year’s date: April 17, 2015) with a tailgate for parents and students beginning in 2016. Also suggested that some Board members could present info about careers in the environmental field. Discussion about sending invitations to permanent addresses given by students so their parents would know (and possible come). The department will begin working on plans for activities for Spring 2016, including tailgate and discussion table.

B. SDM: Student Development & Mentoring (Bryan Gay, Chair)

- (i) Bryan Gay reported on the efforts of the committee to increase the visibility of internships
- (ii) Career Panel was held November 3, 2014 and was successful, although there were more students than mentors. Mock interviews went well. Craig Holloway will take the lead on next year’s Career Panel. Committee is considering the possibility of having a mentorship be throughout the year.
- (iii) Dawn Steph is handling social media—currently have 140 on LinkedIn; also have a small presence on Twitter. Dawn is the gate-keeper on the networking groups.
- (iv) The Job Board with the Career Center is easy to post internships but there are not enough jobs being posted to make it useful; three things needed for this to be successful—marketing, companies to post internships, and students to apply. Discussed handing out cards and info on the Job Board at events.
- (v) The SDM Committee is soliciting possible marketing targets of various professional groups—any leads should be sent to Bryan Gay. One possibility was the Nat’l Assoc. Environmental Managers. Heather mentioned a ¼ page flyer for the NAEP “EPIC” Expo to be handed out at the TCEQ job fair and other venues. We need to engage at multiple levels, including companies that have host BESC 484W interns.
- (vi) SDM Committee would like to sponsor multi-market happy hours which would be BESC/AGGIE gatherings at a specified restaurant in various cities. Goal is to build networking, a possible source of smaller donations. Suggestion if engage Aggie Club may be able to use Aggie Banner at events.

C. FBC: Faculty and BESC Curriculum Committee

- (i) Candice Boeck reported that data and case studies are still needed for BESC 403. Goal is to enable students to see how data is used in the decision-making process. They have a template to use to summarize case studies once they are submitted. This could be sent to companies to make it easier for them to know what information and data are needed.

D. Nominating Committee

- (i) Reported that five members will roll off the Board membership at the end of August 2016; current membership is 21 with three vacant spots.
Motion made and seconded that the three vacant spots be filled. Motion passed.
- (ii) Procedures for nomination and voting were reviewed:
 - Names submitted for consideration that are not selected will be brought to the Board twice; if they are not selected after two years, they will be dropped off the nomination list. They are eligible to be re-submitted at any time.
 - Board members should rank the nominees with “1” being the first choice. All nominees should be ranked.
 - Ballots will be tabulated with the nominees ranked. Heather Wilkinson will contact the top three nominees and invite them to join the Board. If they decline, Heather will move down the list.
- (iii) Six candidates were nominated; specific board members commented on each nominee; ballots were cast with this resulting ranking including their area of expertise, A&M affiliation and nominator:
 1. Beth Everage (Policy; BESC) – GAY
 2. Lisa Murphy (Hill Country, PE; TAMU) – ANDERSON
 3. Randy Hodo (TCEQ w/ Badge; BESC) – TRAMM
 4. James Woodall (EM Conoco Phillips; TAMU) – ETHERIDGE
 5. Chris Rial (Energy Sectors; BESC) – TRAMM
 6. Matt Taylor (Construction; BESC) – ETHERIDGE

3. New Business

- A. Attendance Concerns – noted that at least two Board members have missed two consecutive in-person meetings. Discussion followed about the current by-laws regarding attendance, Article 3, Section 8:

- “Members are required to attend no less than one regular meeting per academic year. Failure to meet the minimum attendance requirements shall be considered just cause for consideration for immediate removal from the BESC Professional Board.”

A motion to amend this by-law was made and seconded, as follows:

- “If a member misses two consecutive in-person meetings (Fall and Spring), then the member shall be removed from the BESC Professional Board”

Since Article XIII – Amendments requires that changes to the by-laws must be submitted in writing at least twenty-one (21) days in advance of the meeting, this motion was approved to be submitted for a vote at the Fall Board Meeting.

- B. CONFIDENTIAL: Michael Jochum announced that he has been accepted into the PhD program in the Plant Pathology & Microbiology Department beginning in Fall 2015. Mike plans to continue to serve on the Board and is interested in serving a second term after he rolls off next year.

4. Department Update

- A. Leadership changes - Heather Wilkinson has been appointed as the Associate Department Head for Academics (both undergraduate and graduate). Dr. Charles Kenerley has stepped down and will return to teaching and research activities.
- B. Dr. Kati Stoddard will be joining the department June 1st as an Instructional Assistant Professor and will be assigned teaching BESC 201 in-person and as a distance course. She will also assist in the development of BESC 367 into a distance course.
- C. Heather presented an overview of the BESC curriculum
- D. Information was provided regarding the Fall 2015 BESC Professional Board Meeting to be held September 17-19th, 2015. The NAEP EPIC EXPO and the Poster Symposium will be on Friday, September 18th from 10-3. Keynote Speaker is Toby Baker, Commissioner of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. BESC Tailgate is again scheduled for three hours prior to kick-off at the A&M-Nevada football game.

MEETING ADJOURNED