

**Bioenvironmental Sciences Professional Board**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Meeting Minutes**  
**Friday, February 22, 2019**

I. 8:21 Meeting Called to Order

**Quorum Reached : In attendance:** Samantha Best, Jamie Bryan, Coy Crain, Beth Everage, Laura Fiffick, Jim Formby, Bryan Gay, Aaron Geyer, Christina Higginbotham, Randall Hodo, Craig Holloway, Harrison Ireland, Michael Jochum, Juan Ludwig, Ana Partin, Heather Podlipny, Cedric Robinson, John Sorkness, Dawn Steph, Joel Trouart, Wally Zverina  
**Ex-officio:** Candice Boeck

**Absent:** Doug Anderson, Beth Everage, Lisa Olson Murphy, Kenneth Tramm

Staff: Heather Wilkinson, Sandy Pierson, Kati Stoddard, Lindu Brochu, Libo Shan, Krista McCollum, Sam Murdock, Dan Ebbolle

II. Welcome Dr. Leland Pierson (“Sandy”), Professor and Department Head

- Dr. Pierson provided a welcome and update.
- PLPM/BESC building updates. Substantial completion the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of May with move in June/July.
  - Tours will begin at 3 pm.

III. FALL BOARD MEETING DISCUSSION - Heather Wilkinson

- Possible coordination with opening of building
- October 25 - 26
  - AgriLife Tailgate
  - Game: Mississippi State
- October 24 - In person interviews with Students - Craig Holloway

IV. Committee Meetings

V. Committee Reports to entire Board

- Curriculum: Coy Crain (Chair)
  - Implemented communication plan and meet every other month
  - KPI
    - Board member questionnaires – completed
    - Populating experience background for Professors
  - KPI- peer reviews of course evaluation
    - Modified this KPI
    - Each member has a faculty contact and reach out to them twice a year to see if they have needs
    - Needs: Dr. Shim - Assistance developing International Environmental Courses
  - KPI - provide 2 articles/newsletters to faculty
  - KPI - Faculty interactions (ongoing)
    - Need board members to speak at NAEP meetings
  - KPI - Case studies
- Finance and Marketing (FDM): Jamie Bryan (Chair)
  - One person in each market for next Happy Hour to create invitation on LinkedIn
  - Happy Hour
  - Scholarship and Endowment Fund
    - Over \$50,000 in the fund

- More challenges than anticipated for an annual fundraiser
    - Focus on 3 levels of giving (Flyer approved)
  - Pass Through Scholarships
    - Bryan Gay will provide a \$5,000 annual scholarship over 5 years
    - Jamie will provide a \$1,000 scholarship
    - Heather highlighted the impacts of scholarships on students and suggested we support the program. BESC could contribute funds to reduce the overall cost of a program.
  - \$250 board member contributions could help fund scholarships
    - \$6,000 available for use
    - Board members need to submit their annual contribution
  - Fundraiser Event
    - First tailgate in conjunction with building opening
    - Market differently to attract more attendees
    - Promote the 3 levels of giving and encourage support of BESC Endowment Fund
  - Board member shirts – each member purchases their own shirt
- Student Development and Mentoring: Craig Holloway (Chair)
  - KPI- Student Workshop and Mock Interviews
    - 28 students and 14 mentors
      - Want every board member involved as a mentor this year
    - In person interviews this year to coordinate with Fall meeting
    - Workshop on November 5 - 6:00 pm
  - KPI - Networking Events
    - Networking Social
      - Summer only going forward
    - Austin have a lunch during the TCEQ event
    - Sciences Career Fair Social (Possibly Sept 11)
      - We need to get more board members and professionals to attend.
  - KPI – Job Postings
    - 26 posted in past 12 months
  - KPI (Proposed) – Interactions between mentors and students
    - 10 mentors to match up with students
    - Implement next Spring and summer semester
      - Meet once a month (In person or remotely)
    - Students research board members online and pick who they are interested in
  - Group Sharing of Information
    - Find a method to post event dates and files
  - Survey of students or former students
    - Determine the measure of success

- VI. Tom Chappell – Description of his first semester teaching Bioenvironmental Data Analysis
- a. Equip students with ability to do it and hear from others who have done it, communicate results to anyone
  - b. 14 students
  - c. Practice orientated and worked with software
  - d. Statistics, applications, data, communication
  - e. Project (group) – designed their own study, analyzed data and presented results to stakeholders
  - f. Needs from the board: Anticipated/future practices that students need

VII. Lunch

#### VIII. Board Member Nominations

- Nominations Board members will rank the nominees with “1” being the first choice.
  - Laura Fiffick nominated Eric Ables
  - Laura Fiffick nominated Elizabeth Nelson
  - Laura Fiffick nominated Chelsea Proeschel
  - Laura Fiffick nominated Brittany Westphal
  - Dawn Steph nominated Candice Boeck
  - Coy Crain nominated Neil Henthorne
- Nomination Rankings - Heather will contact the top ten nominees and invite them to join the board.
  - Candice Boeck
  - Eric Ables
  - Brittany Westphal
  - Chelsea Proeschel
  - Neil Henthorne
  - Elizabeth Nelson
- Motion made to approve Randall Hodo as ex-officio. Motion made by Joel Trouart, Seconded by Craig Holloway, No dissents & Approved

#### IX. Board Nomination Procedures for Future

- Discussion on makeup of the board
  - Environmental Areas
    - Consultants - 11
    - Industry - 6
    - Government - 4
    - Legal - 1
    - Academic - 1
    - Industrial Services - 2
  - Considerations
    - A&M graduate
    - Non A&M graduate
    - Military
    - Gender
    - Age
  - Job Functions
    - Compliance - 8
    - Remediation - 6
    - Engineer - 4
    - Operations - 3
    - Government - 4
    - Law - 1
    - Research - 1
    - Food Safety - 1
  - Needs: Nonprofit, Water, Water Resources, Climate Change,
  - Maintain Regulatory (TCEQ)
- Process for next nomination
  - Existing board members can be nominated at the meeting
  - New candidate nominations are due two weeks ahead of the meeting date

#### X. New Business

- a. NAEP at TCEQ Trade Fair
  - i. Booth
  - ii. Board could provide lunch
- b. Spring Conference Call May/June
  - i. Friday, May 31 at noon
- c. Happy Hour Event
  - i. Thursday, June 6

XI. Adjourn at 2:54 pm

3:00 PM Building Tours