

**BESC Professional Board  
5th Annual Fall Meeting  
Friday, October 7, 2016**

1. Meeting Called to Order.
  - A. Welcome by Sandy Pierson
  - B. Roll Call: Quorum Reached
    - (i) Board Member Introductions – Welcome New Members!
    - (ii) Attendees: Jamie Bryan, Bryan Gay, Doug Anderson, Jeremy Hanzlik, David Edge, Laura Fiffick, Candice Boeck, Craig Holloway, Beth Everage, Michael Jochum, Kenneth Tram, Randy Hodo, Dawn Steph, Jeff Truss, Elspeth Sharp, Lisa Murphy, Beth Everage, Samantha Best, Harrison Ireland, Joel Trouart, Juan Ludwig (Quorum reached)
    - (iii) Absentee: Troy Vickers, Jim Formby, Joe Etheridge, Brian Gottschalk,
    - (iv) Department Attendees: Sandy Pierson, Heather Wilkinson, Dan Ebbole, Linda Brochu, Dr. Shim, Kati Stoddard
    - (v) TAMU Foundation-Jennifer Burnett
    - (vi) Review and Update contact list
  - C. Approval of previous meeting minutes
    - (i) Motion to approve April Minutes- Motion made, Seconded, No dissents & Approved
2. Committee Updates
  - A. FDOM: Financial Development, Outreach, Marketing
    - (i) Introduction – Doug Anderson, Chair
    - (ii) Jennifer Burnett '05, Director of Development, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences-Contact Jennifer if you meet someone who would like to give back to Texas A&M, give an after-life gift, or is selling real estate
    - (iii) BESC Endowed Excellence Fund
      1. Book Value \$41,850

2. Market Value \$39,322.69
  3. Cash Available \$2,483
- (iv) All funds have been donated by Board members.
  - (v) Jennifer has met with potential donors with Heather and board members.
  - (vi) We need to determine what differentiates BESC at Texas A&M from other colleges. We are an award winning program.
  - (vii) Laura discussed the need for having a menu of the ask and what the company will get for their donation.
  - (viii) Jeremy mentioned that we need to cultivate the giving culture from former students. Jennifer is working on a similar project with another college and has pledge cards that we could utilize at Happy Hours.
  - (ix) Bryan suggested we ask for donations and/or charge attendees at Happy Hour and the tailgate. Board agreed that the Happy Hour is a perfect venue to ask for donations.

B. SDM: Student Development & Mentoring committee

- (i) Update from Elspeth Sharp.
- (ii) November 1, 2016 Mentoring Workshop 6-7pm mentoring; 7-9pm career panel discussion held at TAMU Career Center
  1. Mock interview is done through Skype. Two students assigned to each mentor. Each interview requires an hour of the mentors time.
  2. Need 14-15 volunteers for panels, to conduct mock interviews and review resumes
  3. Board discussed modifications to this event such as two types of interviews based on their level in college, utilizing soft resume questions, etc.
- (iii) Job Board – post job and intern opportunities
  1. 16 posted on the web page, but does not include job opportunities that are submitted to Heather by email. Heather utilizes Facebook to post opportunities too.
  2. Board discusses how to obtain metrics from the job postings such as how many students applied, how many were interviewed, etc.

3. We need to decide if we continue the job board since we are not obtaining the metrics that we thought we would.
- (iv) Social
1. Social Media – 218 LinkedIn followers
  2. Happy Hour in Houston, DFW, Austin – attendees are a mix of former and current students. Next event: Thursday, January 5
  3. College Station Happy Hour needs to be during the semester, not summer and winter break
- C. FBC: Faculty and BESC Curriculum Committee
- (i) Update from Kenneth Tramm
  - (ii) Focus on providing ideas of topics that could be covered in courses
  - (iii) Committee has reviewed 5-6 syllabi
  - (iv) They have looked at material for a course such as Dr. Kenerley. His course now utilizes what the committee has provided.
  - (v) Provide key skills, abilities and concepts for what a BSEC student should have when they graduate. This list was created a few years ago and they will be recirculating the list to board members to review and make suggestions for additional items.
  - (vi) Created 20-30 assessment cases that allows students to write a phase I report.
  - (vii) Sandy Pierson discusses the need for equipment to put in the new building, which would allow the students to have experience utilizes the equipment or just seeing it. It can be outdated equipment.
3. Visit from NAEP Officers - Laurel Pinto (President)
- A. Events: EPIC Expo, Career Panel
  - B. Goals: Focus on collaboration between young and older students, prepare for future careers, getting students involved in the community through community service (Ex: Stream Team).
  - C. Current membership: roster has 90 students, approx. 60 attended last meeting. They are trying to get more non BESC members.
  - D. NAEP funded 20 students to attend the TCEQ Trade Fair. They enjoyed seeing the diversity of environmental companies.

- E. Officers would like to see an event in the Spring that is a small group to allow for more one on one time to discuss how to interview well, perform at their job, professional behavior in the work place, communication differences between generations, etc.
  - F. Career Fair has events that deal with some of the above topics. The board could attend the events and then stay after to discuss the workshop and allow students to ask questions.
4. State of BESC – Dr. Wilkinson
- A. Department goals: Technical competence, effective communication, critical thinking, professional engagement
  - B. Vision for the board: two goals for the board are greater opportunity for internships and relevant curriculum.
  - C. The department has leveled off and they are focusing on curriculum design. They have increased the transfer GPA requirement. 370 students currently in BESC with approximately 50 graduating last spring. The department is constrained by faculty resources.
5. Committee Breakout
- A. Committee selection for new members
    - (i) Samantha Best - Financial Development, Outreach, Marketing
    - (ii) Harrison Ireland – Student Development & Mentoring
    - (iii) Juan Ludwig - Financial Development, Outreach, Marketing
    - (iv) Joel Trouart – Faculty and BESC Curriculum
  - B. Bryan suggested committees meet periodically to ensure tasks are being completed. The Executive Team will be requesting quarterly reports to understand what is being accomplished.
6. Lunch - University Club – faculty welcome, Board, Keynote Speaker Oliver Pau, Dr. Alan Sams, Associate Dean College of Agricultural and Life Sciences
7. Student Poster Symposium & NAEP Environmental Professional Internship and Career (EPIC)
- A. Expo – **Rudder Exhibit Hall**– Look at posters and thank Expo partners!
  - B. BESC Program Student Awards - **Memorial Student Center Room 1400**

- (i) Introductory Remarks by Dr. Pierson and Dr. Alan Sams
  - (ii) Presentations by Dr. Wilkinson, Prof. Shaw, and Stoddard
- 8. Keynote Address: Oliver Pau, Cherokee Investment Partners - Introduction by Bryan Gay
- 9. Meeting Adjourned.