

**Bioenvironmental Sciences Professional Board**  
**8<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Meeting Minutes (Virtual)**  
**Friday, April 3, 2020**

I. 12:07 Meeting Called to Order

**Quorum Reached** : In attendance: Eric Ables, Samantha Best, Candice Boeck, Jamie Bryan, Coy Crain, Laura Fiffick, Bryan Gay, Aaron Geyer, Christina Higginbotham (late), Craig Holloway, Harrison Ireland, Michael Jochum, Juan Ludwig, Ana Partin, Heather Podlipny, Cedric Robinson, John Sorkness, Dawn Steph, Joel Trouart, Brittany Westphal, Wally Zverina, Jim Formby (ex-officio)

**Absent**: Doug Anderson, Kenneth Tramm, Randall Hodo (ex-officio)

Staff: Heather Wilkinson, Sandy Pierson, Lindu Brochu

II. Welcome by Laura Fiffick

- a. Approval January 28 Meeting minutes, Dawn Steph motion to approve and Candice Boeck seconded. Unanimous Approval

III. Fall Board Meeting Discussion - Heather Wilkinson

- b. November 5-7
- November 5 – Meet & Greet
  - November 6 – Meeting
  - November 7 – Game: Ole Miss

IV. Committee Reports to entire Board

- a. Student Development and Mentoring: Craig Holloway (Chair)
- 3 main goals
    - Host networking events:
      - Summer: June 4
        - Virtual event with Zoom
          - Multiple events on various dates
          - Hosts:
            - Cedric and Candice
            - Craig Holloway and John Sorkness
            - Christina Higginbotham and Harrison Ireland
            - Samantha Best
        - Heather Wilkinson suggested one virtual event incase low attendance as historically observed.
        - Design a flyer for the virtual event (Zoom Meeting) and date
      - Night before Science Career Fair
    - Job postings
      - 3 postings in 2020
    - Workshop
      - Mock interviews
        - Students develop resume and submit through career center
        - Scheduled with a mentor
        - Mentor meeting: Mock interview and feedback on interview and resume
        - 2 mentees per mentor
        - Next Event: November 5

- Need to consider this might occur virtually
    - Discussion groups
      - 3 topics – relevant and fresh
        - Suggestion from Heather Wilkinson: Scenario based questions and how to handle them in interviews
      - Discussion on how we plan to advertise events going forward
        - Promote to NAEP and BESC
  - b. Finance and Marketing (FDM): Jamie Bryan (Chair)
    - Discussion about local high schools to educate about BESC
      - On hold until schools are back in session
    - Fundraising is not appropriate at this time
    - Unsure of football schedule for a tailgate in the fall
  - c. Curriculum: Coy Crain (Chair)
    - 4 action items
      - Annual course feedback/faculty requests
        - 4 opportunities
          - Water course
          - Dr. Stoddard – Project management plan information, SOPs
          - Dr. Ebbole and Dr. Shim – 311 class
          - Sediment sapling protocol to Dr. Stoddard
        - Submit newsletters, articles and other periodicals
        - Faculty interactions
        - Achieved KPIs for the year.
        - Mock monitoring well installed on campus on March 3
          - LinkedIn Post by Dr. Stoddard
        - Open request for funding for equipment
          - Linda – they received a commitment for a pump but the donor wants their logo on the equipment. They are in process of getting approval from A&M to include the logo.
        - Opportunities for high school recruiting (on hold)
        - Bring in vendor to discuss capabilities with 304 class was successful and beginning to line up people for next year
        - NAEP speaker recruiting assistance
        - Heather Wilkinson is needing assistance with a course textbook

#### V. Board Member Nominations

- Nominations Board members will rank the nominees with “1” being the first choice.
  - Craig Holloway nominated Randall Hodo
  - Heather Wilkinson nominated Matt Harrington
  - Coy Crain nominated Kyle Alexander
  - Ana Garza Partin nominated Leslie Loveless
  - Bryan Gay nominated Matthew Zidek
  - Laura Fiffick nominated Elizabeth Nelson
  - Laura Fiffick nominated Chelsea Proeschel
  - Harrison Ireland nominated Samantha Best
  - Jamie Bryan nominated Harrison Ireland
  - Jamie Bryan nominated Juan Ludwig
- Nomination Rankings - Heather Wilkinson will contact the top five nominees and invite them to join the board.
  - Samantha Best
  - Harrison Ireland
  - Randall Hodo

- Juan Ludwig
- Matthew Zidek
  
- Matt Harrington
- Kyle Alexander
- Leslie Loveless
- Elizabeth Nelson
- Chelsea Proeschel

VI. Board Officer Elections

- a. Harrison Ireland nominated Craig Holloway for Chair
- b. Bryan Gay nominated Coy Crain for Chair or Vice Chair
- c. Jamie Bryan nominated Dawn Steph for Secretary
- d. Motion to approve ballot, Candice Boeck seconded the ballot. Unanimous Approval

VII. Discussion for Internship opportunities during COVID-19

- a. Oil and gas are laying off employees and hiring freezes
- b. Consulting firms are seeing furloughs, hiring freeze, etc.
- c. State is hiring
- d. Advice: Look in government and safety sectors

VIII. New Business

- a. Heather Wilkinson thanked Joel Trouart for her service to the BESC Board.

IX. Adjourn at 2:37 pm