

**September 28, 2018**

**SPC Biology/Biotechnology Advisory Committee**

**SPC staff Advisory Board ex officio members present:**

Natavia Middleton, Dean of Natural Sciences Linda Gingerich, Chair Baccalaureate Biology Michelle Osovitz, Faculty Baccalaureate Biology

**Advisory Board members present:**

Guy Bradley, PI TRBU- Biomedical Research, Advisory Board Chair, Ann McNicol – Director Biotechnology Program, Countryside High School Allison Williams – ACOS Research Bay Pines VA Healthcare System, Robert Ulrich, Adam Coovadia

**SPC staff Advisory Board ex officio members absent:**

Kathy Siegler, Instructor in Charge AS Biotechnology and Faculty in Natural Science Shannon Ulrich, Faculty in Natural Science Ray Menard, Faculty in Natural Science, Craig Huegel, Adjunct Faculty in Natural Science Joseph Benavides, Career Service Support – CL campus, Linae Boehme, Faculty Baccalaureate Biology

**Advisory Board members absent:**

Paul Anderson, Amanda Audia, Theresa Badurek, Meghan Gentilini, Susan Gerhart, Heather Gibbs, Soichi Haraguchi, Sunil Jambhekar, Fred Perez, Akiko Tanaka, Andrea Smith, Michael Shablott, Steve Harper, Candance Ferrell

- I. Call to order @ 5:35 pm
- II. Approval of minutes April 10, 2018  
Previous minutes approved contingent on correcting the spelling of G. Bradley name and location of employment. Motion made by Allison Williams. Motion approved by unanimous approval.
- III. **Status of B.S. Biology Program**
  - A. Program Changes effective Fall 2019—2 subplans of either ecology evolution organismal biology (EEOB) or Cellular Molecular Biology (CMB). List of proposed changes distributed to committee. Advantages are that the Subplan name will be printed on degree when they graduate. Plant biology will be removed from the core along with cell biology. These courses will still be offered but are not core courses. Internship or undergraduate research will be a requirement for the students in program.  
  
Board asked what they thought of the subplan changes. G. Bradley sees the benefit because it may help students graduate in a timely manner. What happens though if a student is interested in class not in their plan?
  - B. Online courses  
Students taking online courses that are not related to the degree—online courses. New subplan would limit that so that students are taking meaningful courses

Implement more online options for students such as ecology and genetics. Discussion based on why students took online classes. Board was supportive of offering more online lecture options. Labs would stay as f2f class.

C. Prerequisites

Board asked if cell bio was prereq for genetics. Discussion on how the course is taught and that it's organelle focused.

D. Admission to the program

Admissions criteria were changed to allow students into the program early. But they would be would not be able to progress in the program unless they are currently taking organic or physics when they first enter.

Fair number of students are interested in medical field in some capacity (about 2/3 of students)

E. Questions on curriculum

Bioinformatics could be a new course offered. What would the prerequisite be?

Question on the curriculum for the animal behavior class. Was asked if behavioral testing was already a part of the class. Allison Williams said that the Bay Pines VA may be working on a behavioral studies project so there could be some collaboration.

Should the biostats be an option for both subplans? Many students have already taken stats so they could have already been exposed to stats previously

MCAT changes discussed. Psychology is much more emphasized. M. Osovitz suggested that students use the internship to get experience for psychology. This could benefit students interested in PA school.

Question asked about what type of students want to pursue EEOB path? Environmental management, fish and wildlife, NOAA, park service, etc.

Biotech modeling system class may be a good options to address animal models. This could be embedded in the methods and applications in Biotech course.

Should immunology and molecular biology be combined in the same class? Will stop offering molecular biology starting fall 2018. Should we change the name to molecular immunology (4 credits)? Or do we need to just eliminate molecular biology since it's embedded in other classes already. Group made no definitive decisions on this.

F. Internship

Recent Moffitt affiliation agreement changed to allow more students to intern at the site.

Can B. Ulrich take more SPC interns? B. Ulrich has expanded his business and will need a fresh labor force. He is looking into more interns. A previous SPC student is working currently full time and this student is doing an exceptional job. As a result they would like more interns. B. Ulrich wants interns who will stay to become employees.

Internship tab would be a nice addition to the biology website. Once information is migrated over to the new site this would be a good addition for students. This would make it easier for M. Osovitz to assist students who are interested in internships.

What are the minimal requirements to complete an internship? Contact hours offsite must match credit hours. Demonstrate work that is novel. Essay required. Essay is specific to what the internship site requests. Site visit can be done by M. Osovitz during the term. Site is responsible for mentoring the student.

G. Additional

Current academic research at Bay Pines discussed.

**Status of AS Biotech program**

A. Graduates

3 graduates from Fall 2017 to Fall 2018. Potentially four students will graduate in Spring 2019, dependent upon internships. The intro to biotechnology course currently has nine students enrolled. This is the largest class of students since the commencement of the program

B. Collaboration with SPC Workforce Institute to offer a certificate for students interested in clinical labs.

C. Increase in program visibility

Perkins marketing campaign from May 2018 discussed.

Articulation with Countryside High School discussed. Countryside has iStem program which will increase knowledge of SPC program.

**New Business**

Next meeting will occur offsite. Suggested location was Mello Mushroom.

Meeting adjourned @ 6:57 pm