

ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE

Minutes of Meeting

DATE/TIME: March 17, 2011

LOCATION: Seminole Campus, UP 303

ATTENDEES: Richard Clarke, Dr. Gary Graham, Jeremy Hockenbury, Irvin Kety, James Kostka, Teresa Nixon (Chair), Dr. Jim Olliver, Caela Paioff, Michael Shrader, Andy Squires, Roberta Starks, Kelli Stickrath

DATE ISSUED: March 23, 2011

The following is a recap of the items discussed and agreed upon at the meeting regarding the Environmental Science Technology Advisory Committee at the Seminole Campus. This is a summary of the writer's interpretation of the meeting. Unless advised in writing to the contrary, it is assumed that those in attendance are in agreement with the statements as set forth and work will proceed on this basis. If you have clarifications you wish to make, please contact Kelli Stickrath via e-mail at stickrath.kelli@spcollege.edu or telephone at 727-394-6947. Thank you.

Item No.	Description or Comments
1	<i>Introductions</i> Welcome by Teresa Nixon and all attendees introduced themselves.
2	<i>Approval of March Minutes-</i> Approval of 12_9_2010 meeting minutes by Andy Squires and seconded by Irvin Kety.
3	<i>Environmental Science Technology update-</i> The Environmental Science Technology program has grown from 64 students in fall 2010 to 104 students in spring 2011.
4	A question was asked about the Advisory Committee member and Dr. Graham explained that Dr. Law will officially invite members in June. Committee members are appointed by a year-to-year basis and there is no term limit on member participation.
5	<i>Natural Habitat Park-</i> April 16 th Earth Day event was announced by Kelli Stickrath. She asked the Advisory Committee to help promote the event.
6	Debbie Chayet, with Pinellas County Extension, has applied for a SWFWMD grant to plant natives on the north end of the Habitat Park. The grant is a \$20,000 match. \$10,000 is from private donations and \$10,000 was from the SPC facilities department.
7	<i>Old Business-Recommendations from the December Meeting-</i> overview by Teresa Nixon
8	<i>New Business-Program Curriculum Needs-</i> Andy Squires said he was impressed with the courses and wondered if watershed management, hydrology, BMPs, and grant writing was taught to the SPC Environmental Science students.
9	Irvin Kety discussed that he is teaching Environmental Regulation and Compliance this term. He said the first half is how regulations are made, who does what and why. His text is Environmental Policy in the 21 st Century. Now a new Environmental Regulation course is out.
10	Kelli Stickrath commented during a Natural Science departmental meeting an instructor discussed putting together a Scientific Communication course. She will follow up on this. All agreed this course should be offered the first or second term

	when a student starts the degree.
11	Diana Bandlow suggested critical thinking should be introduced into courses. Students should think as to why samples are taken in certain places, why is the DO low, etc. and follow a holistic watershed approach. At DEP, staff must pinpoint causes to fix and write reports to communicate to Tallahassee.
12	<i>Course Development-</i> Kelli Stickrath notified the Advisory Committee that all of the Environmental Science Technology courses are finished or under development and will be offered in the next year
13	Kelli Stickrath reviewed the course offerings, course outlines and Committee member list.
14	It was discussed that a course in business etiquette would be helpful for both employers and students.
	Skills needed by students are environmental chemistry, aquatic plant, algae and macroinvertebrate identification. Students should have a good understanding of stream and lake ecology.
15	Computer programs should have a basic understanding of GIS, Access, and GPS.
16	Other curriculum needs included recommendations on teaching students how to delineate wetlands and follow state developed criteria, NOAA methodology on how to read a staff gauge, and basic surveying.
17	Since funding is low, it was agreed upon that expert guest speakers would be a great idea to come into the classroom and demonstrate these skills.
18	Andy Squires said he could arrange a soil scientist to visit a classroom as a guest speaker.
19	<i>Spending approval-</i> Perkins Grant \$2004.95 was requested from the Perkins grant federal funding through the FL Department of Education for the Environmental Science Technology with a majority of the Advisory Committee approving the purchase.
20	<i>Current equipment list-</i> Kelli Stickrath will inventory the equipment at SPC Seminole Campus for the Advisory Committee to review at the March 17, 2011 meeting
21	<i>Other Equipment Needs-</i> Irvin Kety said the City of Largo may be able to donate Isco Automatic Samplers to collect water samples.
22	Other equipment recommendations were the Well Wizard to monitor wells, hydric soil agars, YSI instruments for pH, temperature, salinity, conductivity and DO, and Marsh McBirney flow meters.
23	It was suggested to research equipment college discounts on flow meters and see if consultants could donate used equipment.
24	Andy Squires asked if SPC owns dissecting scopes. Kelli Stickrath replied yes and she will add them to the current equipment list.
25	Plankton seines on the equipment list will be changed to plankton nets.
26	It was asked what the beach depth rod is used to measure. Kelli Stickrath replied she didn't know, but would find out.
27	<i>Articulation with Lakewood High School-</i> James Kostka described the 4-year Environmental Science program at Lakewood High. SPC has an articulation agreement with Lakewood High to provide EVS 1001 Introduction to Environmental Sustainability course credit and enroll these high school students into the Environmental Science Technology degree once they finish the Lakewood Marine Academy program. Graduating seniors will enroll at SPC Fall 2011.
28	<i>Articulation with Seminole Vocational-</i> SPC is hopeful to form an articulation agreement with Seminole Vocational beginning Fall 2012.

29	Dr. Graham discussed PEAC, the Pinellas Education Articulation Committee, meets in March for articulation approval.
30	Programs are reviewed annually and reviewed in depth every three years.
31	<i>Internship Summer Opportunities-</i> All Committee members said they would actively look for summer internship opportunities for the ENV SC students.
32	Diana Bandlow said she would ask NOAA and Teresa Nixon said she would ask USGS if they have an internship opportunities. Irvin Kety said he would contact the Tampa Bay Estuary Program Director.
33	Kelli Stickrath went over the BSC 2949 schedule and discussed the expectations of the students and employers. Stickrath also discussed the hours the intern has to work for college credit.
34	<i>Other Business-</i> Dr. Olliver announced the April 14 th Values and Vision luncheon and asked the Advisory Committee to attend.
35	There will be a four million dollar expansion at the Seminole Campus in the near future. It is hoped that as part of this expansion an environmental science classroom/lab (that could also be used for teaching chemistry) will be built. It is also hoped that the College will be able to secure outside funds through Progress Energy to assist in providing materials and public displays for this lab
36	It was asked if a four-year Environmental Science degree will be offered at SPC. Dr. Olliver said it is in discussion.
37	Roberta Starks sent electronically to Kelli the Standard Operating Procedures of the SWFWMD Water Quality Monitoring Program. Roberta offered to email this document to any Committee members who would like a copy.
38	<i>New Meeting Date-</i> The next meeting location will be at the EpiCenter 13805 58 th St. N. Largo. Date TBD. Breakfast, lunch or dinner will be served.
39	The meeting was adjourned at 5:10pm.