

1. Meeting Called to Order.
  - A. Welcome by Sandy Pierson
  - B. Roll Call: Quorum Reached
    - (i) Board Member Introductions – Welcome New Members!
    - (ii) Attendees: Bryan Gay, Doug Anderson, Samantha Best, Candice Boeck, Coy Crain, Beth Everage, Laura Fiffick, Jim Formby, Christina Higginbotham, Randy Hodo, Craig Holloway, Harrison Ireland, Michael Jochum, Juan Ludwig, Heather Podlipny, John Sorkness, Dawn Steph, Jeff Truss, Joel Trouart, Wally Zverina (Quorum reached)
    - (iii) Absentee: Jamie Bryan, Jay Carsten, David Edge, Lisa Murphy, Troy Vickers
    - (iv) Department Attendees: Sandy Pierson, Heather Wilkinson, Dan Ebbole, Linda Brochu, Kristin McCollum, Kati Stoddard, Sam Murdock
    - (v) TAMU Foundation – Jennifer Burnett
    - (vi) Review and Update contact list
  - C. Approval of previous meeting minutes
    - (i) Motion to approve February Minutes - Motion made by Samantha Best, Seconded by Laura Fiffick, No dissents & Approved
2. BESC Program Overview
  - A. Heather highlighted the various BESC courses and the staff associated with each. In addition to the required courses, all students are expected to complete a field experience or internship in order to graduate. BESC also has a faculty led study abroad program in China. The program has interest but not all can attend due to financial limitations. Bryan suggested the board utilize this program to fundraise in order to provide scholarships for the study abroad program.
  - B. 325 students enrolled in BESC program

- C. Sciences Career Fair was well attended and beneficial for students and industry partners.
3. Update from Jennifer Burnett
- A. Provided board with a Support Starter Toolkit, which includes information on the following:
    - (i) BESC excellence fund
    - (ii) New Plant Pathology and Microbiology building
    - (iii) Methods of giving including a pledge card
4. Bylaw Change
- A. Amendment: add a Section 9 to Article III.  
  
Section 9.  
Members are required to provide an annual monetary contribution of \$250.00 to help fund the purpose of the Board. This \$250.00 annual contribution may be paid individually by the member or acquired through donations solicited from others and paid with reference to the specific member upon whose behalf it is contributed. Failure to make or acquire the \$250.00 annual payment for two consecutive years is considered just cause subjecting the member to removal by the BESC Professional Board
  - B. Motion to approve the bylaw amendment – Motion made by Doug Anderson, Seconded by Samantha Best, 14 ayes, 3 dissents (Craig Holloway, Laura Fiffick, John Sorkness) 1 abstained (Michael Jochum) & Approved
5. Committee Alignment and Updates
- A. FDOM: Financial Development, Outreach, Marketing
    - (i) Chair: Jamie Bryan
    - (ii) Co-Chair: Doug Anderson
    - (iii) Members: Jeff Truss, Juan Ludwig, Bryan Gay, Laura Fiffick
    - (iv) Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
      - 1. Raise \$10,000 by the spring meeting
      - 2. Create marketing strategy to market the BESC major
      - 3. Ensure 10 board bios are completed for the website

- (v) Meeting: Monthly conference call – last Friday of the month
- (vi) Update – Doug Anderson, Co-chair
  - 1. Goal is to market the department to students and fundraise for the endowment fund. The committee will be creating levels of sponsorship and ways to recognize them.
- (vii) BESC Endowed Excellence Fund
  - 1. Book Value \$46,000
  - 2. Market Value \$48,585.37
  - 3. Cash Available \$3,969.65
- (viii) BESC Board/Expo Accounts
  - 1. Available \$11,463.36
- B. SDM: Student Development & Mentoring committee
  - (i) Chair: Craig Holloway
  - (ii) Co-Chair: Samantha Best
  - (iii) Members: Dawn Steph, Wally Zverina, John Sorkness, Christina Higginbotham, Michael Jochum, Harrison Ireland, Lisa Murphy, David Edge
  - (iv) Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
    - 1. 28 students attending workshop
    - 2. 15 internships/job postings for students per year
    - 3. Host 3 networking events a year (2 multi city networking events and mixer at sciences career fair)
    - 4. 300 LinkedIn members
  - (v) Meeting: Once a month – first Friday of the month
  - (vi) Update
    - 1. Environmental Professions Workshop is the big event and is coming up in November. We are actively seeking mentors and discussion leaders.

- (vii) Environmental Professions Workshop
  - 1. November 7, 2017
  - 2. 6 – 7 pm Resume and interview mentoring
  - 3. 7 – 8:30 pm NAEP meeting and BESC Discussion Groups
- (viii) Social
  - 1. Social Media – 240 LinkedIn followers
  - 2. Networking event in Houston, DFW, Austin – attendees are a mix of former and current students.
    - (a) Next event: Thursday, January 11 at 5:30 pm
    - (b) Austin host is needed

C. FBC: Faculty and BESC Curriculum Committee

- (i) Chair: Candice Boeck
- (ii) Co-Chair: Beth Everage
- (iii) Members: Heather Podlipny, Randall Hodo, Joel Trouart, Troy Vickers, Coy Crain
- (iv) Ex effico members: Kenneth Tramm, Jim Formby
- (v) Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
  - 1. Provide short bios of each committee member for faculty
  - 2. Perform peer review of overall course curriculum and evaluation/feedback for faculty per year – if requested
  - 3. Provide a minimum of two articles, newsletters, etc. to faculty for curriculum/course per year
  - 4. Accomplish two faculty interactions per year (in-class speaker, NAEP meeting, etc.)
  - 5. Provide at least four case studies to faculty per year
- (vi) Meeting: quarterly meeting
- (vii) Update

1. Case studies have been provided to Kati and Ebbole.
6. Board membership overview
  - A. 10 members roll off next year
  - B. Bring nominations to the spring board meeting
7. Lunch - Keynote Speaker Craig Bonds, Kim Dooley – Associate Dean, College of Agriculture
8. Visit from NAEP – Madeline Jones, Secretary
  - A. Host speakers twice a month at meetings and volunteer in the community by participating in Stream Team, Big Event and Science Career Fair.
9. Spring meeting discussion
  - A. Friday, March 2, 2018
  - B. Hotel: on your own
10. Student Poster Symposium at AgriLife Conference Center
11. BESC Program Student Awards
  - A. Introductory Remarks by Dr. Sandy Pierson
  - B. Presentations by Dr. Wilkinson, Prof. Shaw, and Dr. Dan Ebbole
12. Keynote Address: Craig Bonds, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department,
  - A. Introduction by Heather Wilkinson
13. Meeting Adjourned.