Minutes  
Biology Major Executive Committee  
September 9, 2015

Present were Alice Harmon, Mike Miyamoto, Christine Davis, Patrick Inglett, John Blake, Ata Sarajedini, Bobbi Knickerbocker, Joel Brendemuhl, Britta Osborne, Brandi Phillips, Saba Rathinasabapathi, Bill Spencer, and Cindy Link

**Action Items**

1. Major Biology brochure/banner – a subcommittee was formed to meet and discuss the content of the brochures and banner, and the number of the brochures and banners needed for each College. The first meeting will be to discuss the general content text and the second meeting will be to review the changes. The subcommittee consists of the Bio Major director and assistant director, two faculty, and two advisors; the two faculty and two advisors are one from each College.

2. It was decided that the Biology Major budget will be used to support undergraduate travel, possibly as many as ten awards per academic year, and for general office expenditures. Any major purchases will be presented to the committee for approval. The budget will be reviewed at the end of each fiscal/academic year.

3. The “Biology and Society” group of courses was approved. It was determined these will be distribution courses, not elective courses, and that there will be a limit to the number of 2000 courses the students can take.

**Discussion/Informational Items**

1. There was much discussion about the Progressive Planning for the Biology Major. Some of the suggestions were having Honors graduates publish an article in the Journal of Undergraduate Research, a peer-reviewed journal here at UF; make a formal presentation of their research; be awarded $500 from the Bio Major for outstanding research; invite cool speakers; submit a training grant; have undergrad teaching; work on teaching initiatives; have an end-of-year event for graduating seniors with possible awards, parents attending, etc. One question that was brought up was what happens to students who aspire to go to professional school who don’t make….what happens to them?

2. The book and website for Paris Grey/David Oppenheimer were provided to the committee. An email was sent after the meeting since it was not provided prior to the meeting.

3. It was brought up that the Florida Department of Education requires the university to accept MAC2233 (Survey of Calculus 1) as an admissions requirement for transfer students. The BMEC must consider whether to accept MAC2233 to fulfill the calculus requirement for the Biology degree (substitute for MAC2311, Calculus 1), or whether to require students who are admitted with MAC2233 to also take MAC2311 in their first semester at UF.