Minutes
Biology Major Executive Committee
November 20, 2014

Present were Christine Davis, Alice Harmon, Mike Miyamoto, John Blake, Patrick Inglett, Bobbi Knickerbocker, Herschel Johnson, Ata Sarajedini, Joel Brendemuhl, Bala “Saba” Rathinasabapathi, Bill Spencer, and Cindy Link

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. PCB 3xxx was discussed and will be incorporated into the major
2. The revised 8-semester plans were submitted by Lynn O’Sickey for BIO and Bill Spencer for BLY.

DECISION ITEMS

1. Approved the minutes from both the May 30 and September 25, 2014, BMEC meetings. There was an omission in the original minutes approved during the September 25 meeting. Item #5, concerning the e-vote sent to the committee members, was not on the minutes that were originally approved. It was reported in today’s meeting that Item #3 had been left off the original minutes.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. The inclusion of College of Medicine courses was discussed. It was reported that since this is a University issue and not a department issue, and since there is a Provost task force looking into this, it was decided this matter should be tabled until more info is gathered. It was agreed that it would be beneficial to find out who is on the Provost’s task force.
2. Concerning the final report form, it was agreed to let the faculty advisors decide on the reporting requirements and that the word count should be suggested rather than required. A minimum requirement of the report containing all sections including References was required. A similar report will be required from students seeking to substitute other research courses for BSC 4910 or 4912. The form will be modified to include the above changes and a place for the faculty mentor to indicate approval of the report and to add comments.
3. The use of teaching assistant courses used for credit for additional life science electives was discussed. Currently, the requirements are that no credits are allowed. It was voted on and approved to keep the requirement as they currently are; however, one member wants to think about ramifications of this vote.