Minutes  
Biology Major Executive Committee  
April 14th, 2017

Present were Britta Phillips, Brandi Osborne, Alice Harmon, Kelly Rice, Jamie Gillooly, Joel Brendemuhl, John Blake, Patrick Inglett (chair), Teresa Mutahi, and Andrea Smith. David Oppenheimer was also present as a guest speaker.

**Informational Items**

1. CCC comments update: Teresa, The Biology Major Undergraduate Coordinator, uploaded the comments to CCC on 3/24/2017, approved by Marta (3/24), pending at CLAS now.
   a. Teresa and Patrick had a meeting with Andrew Zimmerman and David Pharies regarding the nature of the Bio BA.
2. BMEC is purchasing a laptop for the Biology major undergraduate coordinator, Teresa Mutahi. (~$1500)

**Decision Items**

1. The motion for online approval of the minutes for the March meeting was approved unanimously.

**Discussion Items**

1. Guest David Oppenheimer discussed the proposed laptop requirement policy. See link to make comments. This discussion will continue next meeting pending Dr. Oppenheimer’s availability.
2. The discussion to consider having minimum credit coursework for BS taken at UF was cut short, due to another pressing issue regarding the current CLAS BIOPRO 28 credit core coursework requirement. With the approval of BSC3096, Human Physiology, (3 credits) which meets the physiology requirement, both CALS BLYPRO and CLAS BIOPRO students need at least 27 credits to satisfy their core coursework requirements. Teresa will follow up on this change in the CLAS audit system to minimize a surge of waiver requests for one credit in the future.
3. Update: Semester of Immersion Brochure: materials for advertisement. Currently in final review, official brochures and website links will be sent out shortly!
4. For next meeting: please send potential Biology and Society courses for Bio BA for discussion.
5. Top Thesis Awards: it was decided that further examination was necessary in order to judge all theses fairly.  
   In doing so the plan is as follows:  
   - Each theses reader nominates their best thesis
- All BMEC readers review the six nominated theses
- Each reader submits their top 3 theses
- The three theses with the most votes receive the awards