

Minutes of the SDSM&T GEOE/GEO/ PALE Advisory Board Meeting

April 19, 2013

Board members present: Steve O'Rourke, Sherwin Artus, Rich Arnold, Barb Beasley, Jeanne Goodman, Ray Wuolo, William Gates, David Hammond

Faculty present: Laurie Anderson, Foster Sawyer, Nuri Unzular, Larry Stetler, Maribeth Price, Christena Belanger, Kurt Katzenstein, Colin Paterson, Sally Shelton, Darrin Pagnac, Ed Duke

Department Update: Laurie Anderson distributed the SDSM&T Institutional Profile and gave an update. The slides were included in the packet and sent electronically to Board members.

Some of the highlights of the update included:

- The Forest Service has volunteers working in the paleo lab, which is working very well
- Students are receiving awards and experiencing new opportunities
- Enrollment is up with the highest number of graduate student applications across campus
- Enrollment numbers are creating crowded labs, etc.
- 226 students enrolled in 2013 summer field camps, which is a 50% increase
- Foster Sawyer is working on a NSF project with SDSU and Lakota College consisting of students and faculty working with communities
- Youth programs camp "Geology Rocks" and "Fossils" for high school ages
- Work on an Energy Center continues
- Petroleum software training upcoming
- Web page is new and re-written
- Accomplishments meeting goals of 2012-2013; discussion of 2013-2014 goals
- 6 TA offers out but need 8-12 per semester; only \$15,000 budgeted per year for positions
- ABET training to prep for ABET review
- Chris Pellowski hired to help with student recruiting and geology summer camps

Update on CSED (Energy Center) - Nuri discussed progress on energy center concept with a proposed name for the center of "Energy Resources Research Institute (ERRI)". A Management Team consisting of Nuri, Alvis Lisenbee, Steve O'Rourke, and Bill Roggenthen has been established. The Management Team is looking for \$600,000 to start up and will look to the legislature through the Board of Regents for match to make the ERRI happen; several companies are in support and committed to the concept. Rapid City development organizations are also working with oil/gas related businesses and industries such as law firms and accounting firms to draw in the industry to the area.

IAB Business Meeting

Dave moved, Bill seconded to approve minutes from last meeting. Motion carried.

Committee Reports - Committee chairs Paul Ching (High School Recruitment), Scott Foss (Arrow Quiver), and Tom Bidgood (Industry/Agency Engagement) were not in attendance. The Board discussed the need to reexamine standing committees and reporting requirements because there has not been any feedback for the past two meetings.

Charter Development (Dave Hammond, Chair) – Dave recommended tabling the discussion on Board governance until later presentations. Richard moved, Ray seconded to close out the Charter Development Committee. Motion passed. The Board commended and thanked the committee on a great job.

High School Recruitment Committee (Paul Ching, Chair) - Laurie extended her thanks to Sherwin and Dave for their help with the Denver recruitment event and Paul for his help with the Houston recruitment event. Board needs feedback from Paul Ching's committee concerning interactions with SDSM&T Admissions office.

Dave discussed concerns with a recent high school recruitment event when he received a last minute contact to go to an event. SDSM&T had an Admissions person at the event but there was no one from the Geol/GeolE/Paleo department. He asked for handouts/materials regarding the department to hand out if Board members go and indicated he would talk with Paul. Laurie distributed handouts from the department that the Admissions Office takes to fairs and will talk with Admissions to coordinate future events with alumni. Since Admissions does campus wide recruitment, the IAB sees a need to keep the High School Recruitment Committee active. It was also discussed that our recruitment needs to sell the Rapid City/Black Hills/South Dakota location of the school.

Once on campus, Dave suggested freshmen be given a contact with the department and made a “part of the geol dept” through mentoring, etc., a big sister/big brother-type process. Other suggestions were to invite them on field trips and to seminars to show what will be involved as a student in the department. Foster talked about the successes of the Technology Geological Association (TGA).

Regarding student recruitment and retention, Laurie noted these also bring up issues on limited classroom and lab space and the need for one on one mentoring. Laurie has a “to do” list to work on retention items.

Asked what help from the Board in terms of assistance to the department was needed, Laurie indicated the faculty can use help with ABET review prep work; ABET committee help; university resources; getting the university name out; and encouraging campus visits from company. The department is not seeing industry support unless they realize the value of the students. Laurie did indicate about 60% of students are doing internship, but there is concern that field camp may interfere with internships.

IAB Roles and Responsibilities/Board governance – Steve lead the discussion through a powerpoint presentation. Steve suggested that issues be bulleted at each meeting, and minutes from the Board meeting be placed on the department's web page.

There was discussion on Board member's personal financial commitment and active participation as part of their membership on the Board. Steve suggested forming a Governance committee to flush this out to include the following ideas and topics:

- Onboarding packet for new board members
- Expectations for new board members
- What it means to be part of this body
- Requirements to be a board member
- Member does not necessarily have to be an alum
- Volunteers

Nominations for Vacant Board Positions - Board member Paul Harwig has resigned. Three names were suggested as possible replacements for Paul. According to the Charter, the next step in the process is to talk with faculty. Laurie will bring the suggested names to the faculty at their next meeting on April 26 to let Steve know of their decision by May 1.

ABET Accreditation Preparation – Dave Hammond recused himself from discussions on the review preparation. He gave background information on the Commission, of which he is a member and which has just expanded to 90 members. The Commission is looking for geological engineering program evaluators. He reported the Advisory Board has gone a long way to help with the ABET review at SDSM&T, and senior design has helped.

Kurt stated the review is three years out, but there is a need to collect the data now. Larry indicated faculty needs to lay out the coursework starting next semester to start collecting data, and the faculty will start meeting regularly now to make sure the data is collected.

Steve requested that by the next meeting (October) the faculty come back to the IAB with a plan, schedule, and proposal for ABET review preparation so the Board can provide any feedback and assistance.

Governance Committee - According to the Board's Charter, a new committee may be formed by the board chairman in consultation with the Department Head. Steve recommended a new Governance Committee, and Laurie concurred. David Hammond, Barb Beasley, and Bill Gates volunteered for this committee with Steve O'Rourke as a fourth member to act as liaison to the Foundation. Bill will chair the committee.

Other topics of follow up discussion:

Paleo curriculum –Darrin presented results of a committee designed to bring the Paleo Program into the cutting edge of 21st century paleontology. The curriculum includes six credits of research and two required paleo courses (see sheet from the packet). The Board provided positive comments and agreed the curriculum provided a path of learning how to solve a problem instead of memorizing and addresses the issue of keeping the uniqueness of the paleo program here. Well done. The presidential candidate from New York, currently interviewing on campus, indicated the reputation of SDSM&T paleo program.

Research periodicals - Steve O'Rourke reported his daughter, who is a graduate student on campus, indicated access to research journals and periodicals is the biggest issue for students. On line subscriptions or on-line access is a start, but a fund to provide up to so many articles per student each year would go a long way to meeting this need. Sherwin asked if someone could put together a plan/proposal with a dollar amount to support it. Steve and Laurie will work on a proposal.

Assistance to attract quality graduate students - Colin expressed a need for fellowships from industry to raise the level of the graduate students. Research funding and TA support beyond what the Foundation can do is needed. Laurie described the Consortium model from LSU, which received funding for \$25K as a stipend for five students per year. It is industry assisted and focuses on companies that already hire their students. Laurie needs to work on companies to get the word out on how good our students are. There is a challenge to increase the graduation rate for Masters and PhD students who start but do not finish. With a 50% graduation rate, there is much investment lost in those who do not finish, especially since the Board of Regents count the number of students who graduate.

Colin recommended Tom Bidgood's committee work on a recommendation. .

Status of committees after discussions:

- Charter – Stand down
- High School Recruitment – Tasked them with additional items
- Industry Engagement — Colin will contact Tom and come back to the Board with a proposal on next steps by the end of May.
- Arrow Quiver – Faculty is working on these items such as ABET, professional organizations, and student organizations so stand down the committee. Dave moved; Barb seconded to stand down committee. Motion passed. Steve and Laurie will craft a note to Scott about this.

Energy institute – It was decided to leave it as is as Laurie and Faculty are drafting recommendations on fundraising to bring it to the administration. Laurie can decide if/whether to bring it to the board.

Nominations of officers: Chairman – Dave nominated Steve, Ray seconded. Nominations closed by Dave and second by Barb. Steve accepted nomination. Unanimously elected. Secretary – Bill nominated Jeanne, seconded by Rich. Unanimously elected.

Next meeting – A date the week of New Oil Horizons conference of October 8-12 was suggested; Laurie will send out options with Steve and poll the group.

Laurie will make all papers from this meeting available electronically. Steve will use the documents to update the Foundation on Board business.

Meeting adjourned. 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Jeanne Goodman

ACTION ITEMS FROM THE APRIL 2013 MEETING

1. The Board discussed the need for regular reports from committees, especially because there has not been any feedback for the past two meetings from several.
2. Board asked for feedback from Paul Ching's committee concerning interactions with SDSM&T Admissions office.
3. Laurie will talk with Admissions to coordinate future recruitment events with alumni.
4. Steve requested that by the next meeting (October) the faculty come back to the IAB with a plan, schedule, and proposal for ABET review preparation so the Board can provide any feedback and assistance.
5. Steve and Laurie will work on a proposal with a dollar amount regarding providing funding for research journals/periodicals for a certain number of students per year.
6. Colin will contact Tom and come back to the Board with a proposal on next steps regarding industry engagement in assisting with attracting quality graduate students.
7. Steve and Laurie will craft a note to Scott Foss about standing down the Arrow Quiver Committee.
8. Laurie will send out options on possible meeting dates with Steve and poll the group.
9. Laurie will make all papers from the April meeting available electronically.