

College of Geosciences

Environmental Programs Executive Committee

[Approved] Minutes of Meeting, May 1st, 2007

In attendance: Drs. Sarah Bednarz (SB), Don Collins (DC), Jennifer McGuire (JM), Andrew Millington – Chair (AM), Bob Stewart (RS).

Matters arising

EPEC Minutes of March 21st meeting unanimously approved
07.13

Matters arising and progress

EPEC AM reported on discussions with the Dean regarding College
07.14a investment in the environmental programs. EPEC unanimously
agreed that what was offered was unacceptable in terms of
support and space. In particular the students and the
administration of this degree require space, and space provision
in CSA is deemed unacceptable by EPEC. EPEC requested AM
continue discussions with the Dean. **Action: Meet with the
Dean (AM)**

EPEC AM reported the lack of progress with the web pages, and the
7.14b likely delays in further progress now that Jay Slovacek was
leaving TAMU. **Action: Meet with the
Dean (AM)**

New items

EPEC EPEC reviewed the draft by-laws for Environmental Faculty. A
07.15 number of points were raised which EPEC requested AM attend
to these points within a week, and then send to the Dean and Dr.
Cifuentes and Tchakerian for comment. **Action: AM**

EPEC AM raised the issue of student advising. A number of models for
07.16 GEOS advising were discussed, e.g. one person per theme, a
maximum number of advisees per advisor, clustering advising
around a few people. It was also agreed that a list of advisors and
advisees needs to be drawn up for each degree, and that this
would be a useful addition to the web site. **Action: AM**

EPEC AM clarified that the major modifications to degree plans EPEC
07.17 had been discussing this semester were for Catalog 131, and that
Catalog 130 degrees plans would be similar to those of 129
(although he had updated these with minor changes as requested
by Roxanna Russell).

EPEC The 400-level capstone course – GEOS405 – is only taught in one
07.18 semester, but is required for graduation. EPEC agreed it needs to
be taught in the fall and spring semesters. EPEC asked AM to
contact Dean about a person/people to teach this course. **Action: AM**

EPEC AM raised issue of whether technical electives in GEOS degree
07.19 plan should be listed (as per Environmental Policy electives).
After discussion agreed this was not wise at present.

EPEC New Student and Transfer Conferences. **Action: circulate dates
07.20 of these conferences
over summer (AM)**

