

Horticulture Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda
 Thursday, May 15, 1:30-3:30pm
 Ag Science Conference Room

1. Introduction of staff and advisory committee members
2. Review and approve minutes from last meeting (December 5, 2013)
3. Status Reports
 - Horticulture Unit, Ag Literacy Trail – Dave and Jesus
 - Equipment, Landscape, Building, Student Housing – Tom
 - Turf, IPM, Student Success, Events – Brian
 - i. UPDATE - AG Literacy Trail: The Money Issue
 - ii. Farm/Horticulture Unit Work Days: September 13, 8am-noon
 - iii. Farm Day May 3, 2014 (9-3)
 - iv. Debbie Boroch Science Day: “CSI”, May 10, 2014
 - v. Career Night- Tonight (5-8:45pm)
 - vi. Agriculture Banquet: Friday May 30 @ 5pm
 - vii. Turf Teams- Student Challenge Results (Kevin Marsh, Kay Hoevel, Dani Booth, Jessica Weber, Cody Chavez, Araceli Reza, Gabriel Mendoza)
 - viii. Scholarship Award Winners: Dani Booth (Fred Grau – top 2 year student in U.S. for sports turf); Ben Brown (SC Garden Club), Cynthia Robinson (Mt. SAC Student of Distinction)
 - ix. Job Placements: Kevin Marsh @ Spyglass Hill
4. VTEA, P.I.E.– Jennifer
5. Curriculum Review – Brian
 - Four Year Review
 - i. AGOR 52 - Hydraulic
 - ii. AGOR 53 – Small Engine Repair I
 - Lab Parity Review
 - i. AGOR 2, 29, 32, 39, 50, 54, 72, 75
6. Program Improvements Update
 - 9 updated and 3 new certificates to take effect July 1, 2014.
 - Class in Native / Drought tolerant Plant ID has been approved. Will be offered Spring 2015 for the first time.
 - Update on Water Management Course – Tom
 - Update on Water Technology courses- Tom
 - Update on Horticulture Therapy -Jennifer
 - Permaculture
7. Next meeting – December 4, 2014, Noon-3:00pm
8. Old Business
9. New Business

Horticulture Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda
Thursday, May 15, 1:30-3:30pm
Ag Science Conference Room

Attendees: David Oborn, Brandon Linz, Dave Palumbo, Bill Millward, Dave Lannom, Jennifer Hinostrroza, Brian Scott, Karelyn Hoover, Matt Judd, Jesus Ramirez, Tom Visosky, Daniel Hughes, Carol Partridge

1. Introduction of staff and advisory committee members
 - Matt Judd thanked the committee for being so dedicated and emphasized how important it is to our programs to have such a great group of supporters and advisors.
2. Review and approve minutes from last meeting (December 5, 2013)
 - Motion to approve the minutes was seconded and approved unanimously by the committee.
3. Status Reports
 - Horticulture Unit, Ag Literacy Trail – Dave and Jesus
 - i. Jesus reported that the unit has been really busy with plant sales all Spring. We have been like a circus on the road. The sales are as follows:
 1. Veggie Sale
 2. Fullerton Green Scene
 3. Descanso Gardens
 4. Farm Day
 5. Mother's Day Sale
 6. Farmers Markets – Kaiser Permanente and Jack Newe.
 - ii. We have been trying to caught back up on production now.
 - iii. Literacy Trail - Demonstration Garden is done except for finishing touches like mulch and a few irrigation completions. We hope to have the espalier project done this year. We hope to have some funding to finish the container garden next year. The oak demonstration garden is still probably a couple of years out, but that will be the last of the horticulture portions.
 - Equipment, Landscape, Building, Student Housing – Tom
 - i. Equipment program is strong and classes are going well. We are trying to get some completers of the certificate, and we have several students who are close. We have a new tractor that has all the new, compliant air quality equipment so that we can demonstrate it to students.
 - ii. Construction classes have been building elements of the literacy trail, and the students have really been enjoying the projects and the opportunity to use different technology. The 2 wire irrigation system that is being used has been very interesting to be able to demonstrate, as have the drip and lighting projects.

- iii. Building – We have finally gotten our air conditioning working properly and the new system is much quieter.
- iv. Student housing has been a big benefit for our program. It's a win-win for the students and the department. The students that live in trailers on the farm are here for emergencies, feedings, etc. The students benefit by living much closer to campus and gaining work experience.
- v. There has been some discussion about building some student dormitories on campus for international students and athletes. The housing is to accommodate 250-500 students, and one of the sites that is being considered is where we currently have pastures at our horse unit. This will cause some major logistical problems for the farm. Cal Poly currently has dorms that they can't fill, and they offer them to Mt. SAC students as well.
 - 1. The advisory committee expressed strong concern that this housing project might negatively impact the operations and programs for not only horticulture, but all of the agriculture programs. Students living among livestock who have no experience with livestock can easily put themselves in danger or cause dangerous conditions for the livestock. It would also become much more difficult to determine who is authorized to be in farm areas, and who is not.

• Turf, IPM, Student Success, Events – Brian

- i. UPDATE - AG Literacy Trail: The Money Issue – At the last meeting Brian mentioned that we had a \$10,000 shortfall for completing some of the projects. Since then we have had some donations and gained some other funding for materials. We now have the money to build the stands for the signs and some of the decks. We will probably be scheduling another Literacy Trail meeting soon to take the next steps.
- ii. Farm/Horticulture Unit Work Days: We have been doing work days 1-2 times a semester, and those have been successful. We have another one scheduled for September 15th. We have been averaging 30 volunteers per work day. Brian still hasn't gotten a response about whether or not companies could donate labor for the work days. He will check on that again.
- iii. Farm Day May 3, 2014 (9-3)
 - 1. We had between 700 and 800 people this year. CLCA donated money to help pay for food for the lunch. The event is currently self-sustaining. It is not a fund raiser, but we do make enough money to continue to offer the event annually.
- iv. Debbie Boroach Science Day: "CSI", May 10, 2014
 - 1. Debbie Boroach Science day was last weekend, and it was sold out. Both of our horticulture sessions were maxed out,

and the kids had a great time. We hope we are planting the seeds for kids to get excited about science.

- v. Career Night- Tonight (5-8:45pm)
 - 1. The event will be outdoors tonight, on the hottest day of the year so far, so we're hoping it will work out well. We were unable to use the Recital Hall this year, and the auditorium we used last year didn't really work well, so we had to have it outdoors at our building in order to accommodate the number of people.
 - vi. Agriculture Banquet: Friday May 30 @ 5pm
 - 1. This is our opportunity to recognize students. We give out department scholarships and awards. The department would welcome donations for the awards.
 - vii. Turf Teams- Student Challenge Results
 - 1. This year's competition was in San Antonio Texas. One team took 1st place and the other team took 3rd place. The 3rd place team were all new students who had not competed before. The students dedicated countless hours to prepare for the event. The teams won \$4000.00 to help support the program.
 - viii. Scholarship Award Winners:
 - 1. Dani Booth won the Fred Grau scholarship – top 2 year student.
 - 2. Ben Brown won the Street Tree Seminar Scholarship, a garden club scholarship, and CANERS scholarship.
 - 3. Cynthia Robinson won a Students of Distinction award.
 - ix. Job Placements:
 - 1. Kevin Marsh was hired as assistant in training for Spyglass Hill in Monterey.
4. VTEA, P.I.E.– Jennifer
- South Coast Plaza Spring Garden Show – The horticulture club built a display for the student competition and won third place for their design.
 - VTEA
 - i. Jennifer thanked the members for their quick responses to approve the equipment requests for next year's VTEA application.
 - ii. Jennifer just received the allocations for next year today, and reported that the department was very successful in their request this year. The department overall was awarded \$43,745. This is our biggest allocation ever. Last year's department allocation was almost \$23,000. Horticulture's allocation for 14-15 is \$18,145. We received funding for:
 - 1. Conferences (CATA, STMA),
 - 2. printing more horticulture flyers to advertise our program
 - 3. Student Assistants/tutors for lab classes
 - 4. Ag Ambassadors
 - 5. Canopies for plant sales and events

6. Fertilizer injectors to replace some that aren't working and demonstrate different types for students.
 - iii. We need two volunteers to attend the VTEA advisory meeting next year. It has traditionally been in February, but this year they held it in October instead, so we want to be prepared with volunteers in case it's before our next meeting.
 1. Daniel Hughes and Dave Palumbo volunteered to go.
- PIE
 - i. Jennifer explained that this is the process that the campus uses for planning and justification of budget requests. We have started working on the PIE document for this year already. It is a very detailed and comprehensive report. It lists successes and challenges, as well as goals and needs.
5. Curriculum Review – Brian
 - Four Year Review
 - i. AGOR 52 - Hydraulic
 - ii. AGOR 53 – Small Engine Repair I
 - iii. A motion was made to approve the updated curriculum for these courses. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.
 - Lab Parity Review
 - i. AGOR 2, 29, 30, 32, 39, 50, 54, 72, 75
 - ii. Brian explained what lab parity is and why our courses have been approved for parity in the past.
 - iii. The advisory committee is in favor of all of these courses being approved for lab parity status.
 6. Program Improvements Update
 - 9 updated and 3 new certificates to take effect July 1, 2014.
 - i. 3 new certificates – Horticulture, landscape construction, and landscape design 2. – These have not been approved yet, but we hope the approval will be in place by July. This has been a 2 year process.
 - Class in Native / Drought tolerant Plant ID has been approved. Will be offered Spring 2015 for the first time.
 - We have been asked to add sections for Fall, so we are able to look at adding sections of existing courses. We may be adding a section of Hort Science, possibly on a Monday night.
 - Update on Water Management Course – Tom
 - i. There are 3 courses that we teach now regarding water management. (AGOR 62 – landscape Irrigation Design and Installation, 63- landscape Irrigation Systems Management, 64- Landscape Irrigation Drip and low volume) Tom would like to propose modifying these courses and adding 2 new courses to include more water management and water conservation in the program.
 1. New courses/revisions he is proposing:
 - a. AGOR 62: Landscape Irrigation Principles, Design, and Applications

- b. AGOR 63 Landscape Irrigation Systems Water Management
 - c. AGOR 64: Landscape Irrigation drip and Low Flow Design and Applications
 - d. AGOR 65: Irrigation Installation, Maintenance and Repair (NEW)
 - e. AGOR 66: landscape Irrigation Wells and Pumps (New)
 - f. Tom plans to bring curriculum proposals to the next meeting.
2. The committee approved the plan to revise the curriculum.
 3. The committee discussed how to revise the certificates to include these new courses, and the idea of having a second level irrigation certificate was agreeable to all.
- Tom mentioned the desire to set up a test site on campus for some professional exams such as the CLCA exams and other possible exams. The committee thought that sounded like a good idea and suggested looking into the possibility.
 - Update on Water Technology courses- Tom
 - i. Water Technology is still offered as a fee-based program through Community Ed for non-credit. Tom is trying to find out if we can team up with them to improve and strengthen the program for both of us. The curriculum is all there and the instructor that is currently teaching the courses is a part time instructor who is very knowledgeable. This program would lead to AWWA certification.
 - The committee brought up the Floral Design program and asked if that was permanently gone as a credit program. The committee felt that it was worth looking into the possibility of re-instating the credit program. Brian will discuss it with the division Dean.
 - Update on Horticulture Therapy –Jennifer
 - i. Jennifer attended the Gardens in Healthcare conference in Portland, OR in April. She met some people and brought back information to implement into current coursework. Portland City College has a program that works with the Legacy Health Organization. Jennifer will be looking into their program and how it works. She will also be looking into local hospitals and facilities with hort therapy programs.
 - Permaculture – The committee didn't really have a chance to discuss this due to lack of time, but Dave suggested involving Fleur Nooyen when we start to work on this.
7. Next meeting – December 4, 2014, Noon-3:00pm