

# ***UAA Geomatics Advisory Board Meeting Agenda***

Date: Friday, May 4, 2018

Time: 1:00 to 3:45 pm

Place: Engineering & Computation Building 203

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1. Call to order
2. Welcome & Introductions
3. Roll call
  - a. Attendees: Paul Brooks, Steve Buchanan, Don Davis Jr., Jennifer Dowling, John Koltun, Terri Morganson, Tom Newman, Bill Preston, Nathan Wardwell, Jeff Yates, John Bean, Gennady Gienko, Jeff Hollingsworth, Caixia Wang, Marguerite Leoni, Andrew Rexford, Lindsay Rexford, Theodore McJunkin, Stephen Balcao, Tristan Goers, Austin Gillespie, Neil Robicheau
  - b. Excused Absences: Isaiah Ditmer, , Eric Gabrielson, Brian Gutzwiller, Stan Moll, Jim Sharp
  - c. Unexcused Absences: Kurt Huhta, Kevin Quinn, Steve Schmitt
4. Approval of and changes to agenda
  - a. A motion was made to approve the agenda. With no objections made, the agenda was approved with changes.
5. Approval of minutes from February 12, 2018 meeting
  - a. Paul Brooks made a motion to approve the agenda and Bill Preston seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.
6. Old Business & Reports
  - a. Geomatics Student Association updates - Marguerite Leoni
    - i. Outreach with King Community Center
      1. The Spring semester was very busy so this was rescheduled for Fall 2018. GSA hopes to set up a routine outreach situation where there will be a Fall and Spring event each year.
    - ii. Article for xyHt
      1. The article was postponed as well due to the busy semester. It will hopefully be done in the near future. The article will be about the GSA, especially their mentoring program.
    - iii. Mentorship program
      1. The program will continue into the 18-19 AY. There are roughly 10 students currently participating.
      2. Professor Bean suggested having some of the mentees present on their experience at a GAB meeting in the future.
    - iv. New leadership
      1. Matt Santiago is the new president for GSA in Fall 2018. There are several other new members and students in leadership:
        - a. Vice President – Samuel Phillips
        - b. Treasurer – Nick Srebernak
        - c. Secretary – Rayce Carey
        - d. Professional Liaison – Evan Venechuk
      2. There has been positive feedback from interactions between GSA and ASPLS.
    - v. Summer
      1. Potential orienteering event for students over the summer.
  - b. CoENG AB Report – Steve Buchanan
    - i. Paul Brooks and Steve attended the College of Engineering Advisory Board on 04/27/18. The primary discussion was geared toward discussing the positive

impact of engineers. Some of the electrical engineering students presented their senior project.

7. New Business

- a. Senior capstone presentations

8. Additions to Agenda

- a. John Bean presentation

- i. John attended the UESI Surveying and Geomatics Conference at Cal Poly Pomona in April. ASCE is now part of the Utility Engineering and Surveying Institute. John is a board member for the American Association for Geodetic Surveying, which met during the conference.

- ii. John presented on the Geomatics Department's adaptation of its courses into an online format to increase its accessibility for non-traditional students and/or those that cannot attend on-campus classes.

1. He shared information on the UA System, the various aspects of what the Geomatics program currently looks like, what it will look like, the implementation plan, and the challenges it will face, i.e. the format for labs.

2. There are roughly three or four ABET-accredited universities in the US that offer a Bachelor in Geomatics online. Several of those programs only graduate four or five students per year, in comparison to UAA's roughly 20 students.

- a. Of those 20 students that graduated from UAA this semester, there are only two students who are still looking for employment.

3. There are about 22 universities in the US that offer a BS in Geomatics. Roughly 200 students graduate per year nationwide, which means that UAA has 10% of this total. There are 1,400 industry members per year retiring in geomatics fields.

- a. Part of the issue of filling the jobs seems to be that entry-level wages are too low.

4. The trend for students seems to be that they enjoy the online course format.

- a. A way to handle the lab portion is either through simulation software or via working with licensed surveyors in the field to have them give our students field experience.

- b. The challenge is places in which students may not have access to a surveyor, and thus would need an alternative. The Department has been discussing a potential summer field camp instead.

- b. Continued studies in Geomatics

- i. Caixia proposed potentially created a scholarship for graduate students to continue their education via the Interdisciplinary Studies graduate degree, focusing on Geomatics.

- ii. The thought is that perhaps the GAB can create and seek funding for the scholarship.

9. Schedule next meeting

- a. At the next meeting a new Vice President will be discussed.

10. Adjournment

- a. Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.