

Minutes - Economics Advisory Board

April 22, 2022

Zoom

Attended: EAB- Jill Kosononen (Board Chair), Jill Miller, Susan Esler, Charlotte Smith, Harriet Mountcastle-Walsh, Greg Moody, Shibani Faehnle, Adam Ashcraft, Dan Arthur, Sam Dwinell Other-Chuck Moul, Misty Barrett, Jenny Minier, Bryce Stephens, Katy Rouse, Marcus Hook, Kailey Kraft

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Marcus Hook (President of Econ Club) gave an overview of the club this year. The previous president took over when COVID was finishing up and started rebuilding the club. Elections have now been changed to end of fall to help train/transition leadership before previous leadership graduates. Some events that occurred were resume workshops, faculty talks (Tremblay and Moul/Guest) along with joint meetings and events with WE@MU such as a company panel and research panel with Miami Eco faculty. He shared there could be plans to try to tie to coursework in some manner. When asked how the board can support, some suggestions were to assist with events (part of company, share experience, etc) and just being engaged with the club.

Kailey Kraft (WE@MU leadership) gave an overview of their club. She shared about some of the professional development events they have held. They are currently working on recruiting materials to try to build the club. When asked how the board can support, some suggestions were cross promotions for events, EAB members talking at events, and just helping get word out on club/events.

Jenny Minier, the new department chair, was able to give an introduction of herself and what struck her about Miami University.

The overall state of the department was discussed. In regards to the faculty, we have two departures: Deborah Fletcher is retiring and Austin Smith is moving closer to family. The department is approved for a senior international hire as well a tenure-track micro hire for 22-23 year. There was a discussion over the student enrollment forecast and the current Eco faculty. Chuck will talk with faculty to get ideas/suggestions of vision of department post-COVID. Some highlights for the undergrads was also shared. There were 10 seniors who earned departmental honors, of those 8 were 3+1 students. The Fed Challenge Team finished as semifinalists. An Eco senior CJ Walker won the AEA's Andrew Brimmer Undergraduate Essay. In regards to the MA program: there will be a new graduate director for the upcoming year: Jonathan Wolff. The placements for the 21-22 cohort were good this year, especially for 3+1 students. For the 22-23 cohort, there are about 10 students, which is the lowest in a few years, but hope to grow before the year starts. It is a tough market for recruiting traditional track students, but Jonathan is working on expanding promotional efforts. There is also work being done to build client-based exit option for Summer 2023.

The EAB finances were discussed. There are two relevant funds: EAB Fund and Eco Student-Faculty Engagement Fund. In regards to the EAB Fund, the balance as of 4/13/22 was \$28,663.56. There were \$15,250 in gifts since the October EAB meeting. Spending for this fund was discussed. For the Eco Student-Faculty Engagement fund, there is a balance of \$15,690. Since the October EAB meeting, there were \$1,950 in gifts. Not many expenses have occurred for either account since the October meeting,

however, several would be occurring in the near future. Some of those were thesis advising for faculty, USS advising for faculty, senior cash awards, and EAB sponsored reception for seniors.

Board business was discussed. Several members had terms ending this April: Lynne Kiesling, Susan Esler, Harriet Mountcastle-Walsh, Jill Miller, Patrick Jones, and Greg Moody. Adam Ashcraft and Shibani Faehnle have agreed to term extensions. As of now, there are three new members who will be starting Fall 2022, with potentially others to be added. Those new members are Bryce Stephens ('95), Katy Rouse ('02), and Nick Ruskowski ('02). The subcommittee chairs were discussed: Mentoring- Charlotte Smith, Resource Development- Shibani Faehnle, and Nominating- Dan Arthur. Charlotte gave an update on the current new mentoring program with recent alums. In the fall, Misty will reach out to new alums (those graduated Summer 2022) to see if any others would like a mentor. She will also reach out to faculty about keeping in mind if any undergraduate students would be good for the mentoring program. There will be a new member Meet & Greet that will be virtual in the upcoming months. In mid-summer, there will also be a board only call. In regards to the Fall meeting, Jenny Minier will work with Jill Kosonen on best day structure as well as date. There is hope that EAB members can attend meeting in person.

Meeting was adjourned.