



## National Environmental Health Science & Protection Accreditation Council

*Enhancing the education and training of students  
in environmental health science and protection*

### **EHAC Board Meeting Minutes - August 25, 2022 - 1:00pm Pacific time**

**Board Members Present:** Tim Murphy, David Gilkey, Rania Sabty, Jason Lewis, Kai Elgethun, Cindy Weckwerth

**Board Members Absent:**

**Others attending:** Dr. Kim Lichtveld (AEHAP President)

**EHAC Staff:** Leslie Mitchell

**1.0 Meeting Called to order at:** Murphy called the meeting to order at 1:06pm PST

#### **2.0 Standing Items**

**2.1 Approval of Agenda:** August 25, 2022, agenda approved unanimously

**2.2 Approval of April 12, 2022, Meeting Minutes:** Sabty moved to approve the April 12, 2022, minutes. There was a second from Weckwerth and the minutes were approved unanimously.

#### **3.0 Reports**

**3.1 AEHAP Update:** Dr. Kim Lichtveld – President

- 2022-2023 Focus on:
  - Recruitment focus with a +1 program plan for enrollment and recruitment with an ultimate goal of building the EH workforce
  - Student Research Conference sponsored by AEHAP in April 2023 – to increase student engagement
  - Partnership growth

**3.2 Treasurer's Report:** Sabty and Mitchell provided a brief overview of the budget documents

- Current Balance sheet - checking: \$ 7,083.41 as of July 31, 2022  
- savings: \$ 60,450.82 as of July 31, 2022
- Current Income and Expenses - Net Income: \$12,648 as of July 31, 2022

**3.3 Chairperson's/ED Report: Murphy/Mitchell**

- Welcome to new Board Members - Kai Elgethun, Cindy Weckwerth
- JRCOSTEP - shortened application period
  - Tim described letters from EHAC/AEHAP and for PDs to send to Dr. Schobitz with the USPHS to lodge concerns about the shortened length of the application period.
  - Gilkey submitted that the challenging nature of and timing of the application process has been major barrier to getting applicants historically. Can you apply at any time now? No, but you can prepare way ahead of time in order to be ready to submit your information when the window opens.

- Kim Lichtveld suggested considering talking to freshman and sophomore, so they are prepared to do internship between Junior and Senior year.
- NEPHIP/program recruitment update
  - Mitchell explained that there is holdover funding from 2019-2021 NEPHIP funding of about \$5,500 to support travel related to supporting current and recruiting new programs to EHAC accreditation.
  - Murphy explained that the long term goal is a multiple year proposal to CDC to support program recruitment. This current opportunity is sort of a dry run. EHAC and NEPHIP are developing ways to connect with universities and possibly fund a position in EHAC to work on this effort. Murphy and Mitchell will be working on a proposal for the CDC related to future NEPHIP funding.
  - Elgethun reported that he is going to pitch EHAC accreditation at Creighton University and also University of Nebraska while he is there on business.
    - **Action: Murphy requested that he keep us informed about developments and contacts.**
- Univ. Arkansas - advertising intention to apply for EHAC accreditation
  - Murphy explained that UA has text regarding an “intent to apply for EHAC accreditation” on their Occupational Health and Safety degree program description.
  - Murphy suggested a phone call to the University to let them know that that “intent statement” is not appropriate. We will express that EHAC would love to mentor them along the way, but that it is inappropriate to advertise an intention to apply.
    - **Action - Mitchell and Murphy will discuss the situation and removal of the content next week.**
- Australian lead effort to share EH practice worldwide
  - Dr. Kirstin Ross Share KSAs among EH practice worldwide. There is a wide variety of rigor worldwide, and this is an effort to standardize the practice to allow for EH practitioners to work around the world. Would be great for EHAC if graduates could go to work in other countries.

### 3.4 Undergraduate Program Report: Vice Chair Dave Gilkey

- Montana State – Chemistry 123 Intro to Organic and Biochemical Principles course consideration.
  - Motion: Gilkey moved to accept a request from MSU to substitute Chemistry 123 for the organic chemistry EHAC Undergraduate Requirements.
  - Second: Weckwerth
  - Discussion: Sabty asked to see the schedule for clarification.
  - Vote: Unanimously passed
- NCCU update
  - Gilkey and Mitchell explained that conversations with NCCU have revealed that they are no longer offering the Environmental Health Concentration with the EHAC accredited BS in Environmental, Earth and Geospatial Sciences and associated EHAC related courses are no longer being required for the BS EGS degree. For that reason, they are not meeting accreditation requirements.
  - **Action – Mitchell will draft a letter stating that with the removal the EH concentration from the BS EGS and the removal of requirements to take EHAC related core courses in the BS EGS degree – NCCU’s BS EGS degree is no longer accredited by EHAC. The letter will include encouragement to reapply for accreditation with an EHAC accreditation ready program.**
- UG Requirements Review update
  - Revisions have gone out to PDs for comment and are due on September 15, 2022.

### 3.5 Graduate Program Report: Vice Chair Elgethun

- Guidelines Comm. update

- Two meetings have been held among Elgethun, Busch Isaksen, and Mitchell to structure a plan for moving forward. Elgethun will draft a document incorporating decisions made at the 2022 EHAC Annual Meeting and circulate to Committee and others for comment.

**3.6 Committee Reports:**

- Annual Meeting Structure Committee has met.

**4.0 Old Business:**

**5.0 New Business:**

**6.0 Next Board Meeting: September 22 at 1pm Pacific**

**7.0 Adjournment Mtg. adjourned at 1:54pm Pacific.**