

# MEETING MINUTES

OCBE Regional Meeting  
Santiago Canyon College

Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020  
7:30 AM – 10:00 AM

## Opening

The meeting was called to order at 8:30AM

## OC Biotech Education Partnerships Representatives

Denise Foley, PhD

Spiros Dimitratos, PhD

Kathy Takahashi, PhD

Jo Wen Wu, PhD

Emalee Mackenzie, PhD

Charles Jang

Jonae Varela

Soraida Leal

Danielle Alarid

Arturo Salazar

## Attendees:

Dr. Wendie Johnston, Alexandra Ferreri, Chelcia Harrison-Brown, Cindy Noorani, Claudio Gallegos, Cody Mendoza, David Bañuelas, Dr. Ganesh Raman, Dr. Richard Hartmann, Dr. Suzanne Bohlson, Dr. Terri Quenzer, Farah Shabazi, Jocelin Jimenez, Karin Koch, Laurie Smith, Leila Mozaffari, Lorna Larson, Raine Hambly, Sara Kong, Scott Reindl, Victor Pham, Evan Bonnand, Ashley Zaragoza, Angela Williams

## New Business

- I. **Introduction** - Dr. Denise Foley
  - a. Introduced all attendees to the OCBE Advisory Board meeting
  - b. All attendees gave an introduction, title, affiliation
  
- II. **Program Overview** - Dr. Spiros Dimitratos
  - a. OCBE Certificate and program overview
  - b. Board was asked: What do you consider the most important lab skills for your company?
    - i. Industry replied with various lab skills deemed important which included the following: proper technique in pipetting, documentation, experience using bioreactors, ability to work in upstream or downstream manufacturing, ability to operate equipment, safety/OSHA standards, excellent work ethic, excellent lab documentation, use of lab equipment such as GC, spectrometers, use of environmental lab equipment
    - ii. ***Items strongly recommended:*** Good work ethic, larger blocks of time to allow for students to learn at their internship (4hrs min.), and enthusiasm for the internship/position
  
- III. **Skills Training** – Dr. Kathy Takahashi
  - a. Went over basic skills and advanced skills students are taught
  - b. Board was asked: How many students (max) would you recommend training at one time on complex equipment?
    - i. Industry replied: try using a cohort method and have students rotate on the machine; during that rotation the other students can be working on data while they wait to rotate on the machine. If students are able to do another task while waiting, they will not get distracted and stay on task in class. Virtual simulation models are an idea. Keeping old equipment and having students work on the equipment.

- ii. **Items strongly recommended by industry:** 4 students max for qPCR, no more than 4 because it gets distracting for students. Tissue culture: 2 students is ideal per hoods (4 ft.), while 3 is truly the max.

IV. **Enrollment Pipeline** – Dr. Jo Wu

- a. Spoke about the dual enrollment classes occurring at 10 local high schools

V. **Student Outcomes** – Dr. Jo Wu

- a. Went over how students go for CC to transfer to their 4-yr university
- b. Board was asked: What makes a candidate stand out for employment?
  - i. Industry replied: Strong work ethic, Knowing the industry's lingo when students are in the actual interview process. Ex. GMP, ASEPCT , SOPs. Also prepare student for group interviews. They need to practice more as well be exciting about the job/pathway, functional ability to operate equipment, ability to listen and learn, HPLC experience, bio-reactor experience, understanding GMP, SOPs, GCMS, ICP
  - ii. **Industry strongly recommended:** Knowledge of lab vernacular, being excited about the position, going over the interview process more with students

VI. **Internships and Job Placement** – Jonaé Varela

- a. Internship data update: sixty-nine students placed in internship or job opportunities. 80% of those students were placed in academia based positions, while the other 20% were placed in industry-related positions.
- b. Board was asked: How can we create a better platform for industry-internship partnerships?
  - i. Industry replied: summer internships are best for students since they usually have more time, larger blocks of time 4 hrs+ for any given day, more accommodating college class times to fit industry needs, having interns start in summer and continue into the fall semester to get familiar with facility, work with local agencies that have partnerships established to build a pipeline for internship/job placement in biotech industry
  - ii. **Items strongly recommended:** Professional development of community college student population. There is a large necessity for resume writing assistance, cover letter writing assistance, mock interview, mock panel interview, simulation of interview process, and other student services that provide professional development. Industry has received unprofessional resumes, cover letters, and emails from cc students. They need more help on resume, cover letters, and emails. By providing these services this could benefit the overall interviewing process of the community college students that are applying to biotech position in OC.

VII. **Partnerships** – Emalee Mackenzie

- a. How can your company become engaged in our partnerships?
  - i. Industry replied: hosting tours could be an option to see a “day in the life” of a lab technician, faculty trainings at local biotech companies to learn new techniques and bring that back to the college to teach the students, skype/zoom meeting with industry official, phone call meetings, working with staffing agencies, and working with established government funded agencies that are paying the company to hose an intern this could be a reimbursement of up to 50% to the company for hosting one of our students
  - ii. **Items strongly recommended:** Working diligently with other local officials to create connections and pipelines for internship and employment.

VIII. **Conclusion**

- a. Dr. Jo Wu concluded the meeting by thanking everyone for their attendance,

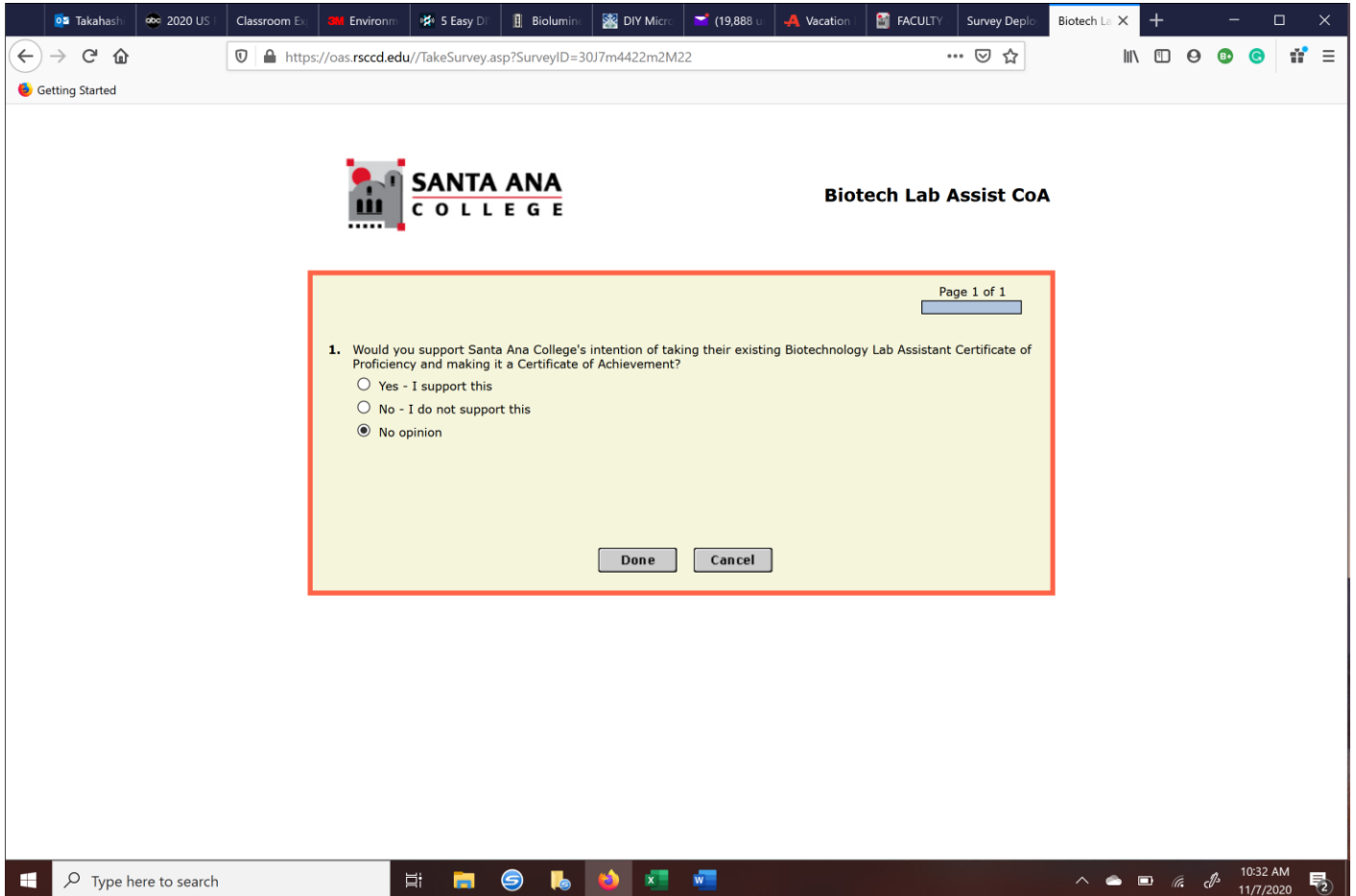
**Closing**

The meeting ended at 9:52 AM.

# Addendum

Nov. 5, 2020

The following question was posed to the OC Biotech Education Representatives and the survey below with the same question was sent to 15 of our Industry Advisory Committee members.



We obtained the following results:

	Yes - I support this	No - I do not support this	No opinion
OC Biotech Ed Representatives	10	0	0
Industry Advisors	6	1	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>