

**NETWORK TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES**

**Tuesday, May 2, 2017 \* 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

**Joan Stout Hall, 250**

**Members Present:** Michael Jaeger, IRely; Eric Olmsted, On Line Support; Gary Liberman, EarthLink; Eric Cowen, Columbia Machine

**Members Absent:** Brian Page (Committee Chair), Fortinet; Brian MacKay (Vice Chair), The Columbian Publishing Co.; Eric Hazen, ieSolutions; Steve Bohling, Clark PUD;

**Clark College:** Dwight Hughes, Network Technology Department Head; Bob Hughes, CTEC Dept. Head; Jack Sandé, NTEC Instructor (opening of meeting only); Adam Coleman, CTEC Instructor; Genevieve Howard, Dean of WPTE; Wendé Fisher – Advising; Nichola Farron – Secretary Senior, Advisory Committees

As the committee chair and vice chair were unable to attend, member Gary Liberman opened the meeting at 6.04pm and introductions were made, including new member Eric Cowen representing Columbia Machine.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

*The minutes of November 9 2016 were presented: Gary made a motion to approve as written; this was seconded by Michael and passed unanimously.*

Announcements

Dwight took the opportunity to announce to the committee that Jack Sandé was not awarded Tenure; as such, this will be his last quarter and subsequently the Microsoft degree will be discontinued.

Announcements from the Office of Instruction

Nichola made the following announcements:

Clark is completing the series of Business and Community Learning events on campus this spring. The quick and friendly ‘lunch and learn’ opportunities. FREE and open to the public, the workshops will be scheduled from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and held in the Gaiser Student Center, allowing people to attend on their lunch hour.

* Friday May 19th The Power of Completion

Join us here on campus Saturday June 3 10:00 a.m. registration opens for the FREE Healthy Penguin Walkabout. There are several stations set up across campus, with health activities and information about one quarter mile apart. A great way to get some exercise, some health information and have fun.

In keeping with the college campus theme, TRANSFORMATION work on the committee composition continues! We are seeking nontraditional members, those folks who are not typically associated with the field (like women in welding). Your assistance is appreciated, if you know of someone who might be interested in joining a committee, let us know.

 We are also going to be making a big push to engage students and Clark Alumnae in the work of the committees. Students will be able to earn a small stipend and a letter of recommendation for their attendance and participation. Piloted this year, have not had students waiting in line – but we want to have them be a regular and vital presence on every committee in the future.

July 13, 2017 – Evening event to recognize our committees and the terrific volunteers that come to meetings two times a year to support students. Watch for additional details to arrive via email.

Clark College will hold graduation at the Sunlight Supply Amphitheater on Thursday June 22 at 7:00 p.m. It is a great way to celebrate the work of the committees. There is always a need for volunteers at the event, if you are interested please let us know.

Guided Pathways

Bob Hughes asked Genevieve to outline the Guided Pathways model for the committee members: she outlined that it is one of the six focusses of the Academic Plan and a statewide movement within community colleges. Designed to counteract poor graduation rates, the data shows that students who go full-time with a clearly defined pathway and will complete at a higher rate. Clark as a college is committing to implementing Pathways, which represents a fundamental shift in the way the College does business. Essentially an educational reform, each Pathway area will have clustered like-programs. This helps with advising and lays out every class the student needs to take and collect the correct amount of credits. Genevieve said she is excited, and recognizes that the model is not far removed from what the majority of the professional technical programs are currently doing.

Dwight noted that the commitment to Pathways would lead to a guarantee that classes would run even if there were lower involvement, which will be a help to students.

Genevieve continued that the key change would be when in the degree students take their Gen Ed. Requirements: in ‘front-loading’ the math, English etc., there is a greater chance of completion.

IT Professional Certificate of Proficiency

(See outline of course attached to hard copy of minutes)

Bob introduced the proposed IT Professional Certificate of Proficiency and provided background by stating that CSIT will be shifting from AAS to a Computer Support AAT for a number of reasons, including the desire to have more technology-focused courses. Whilst Bob recognized that the Cisco program is a different group of students, with different goals and skillset, some similarities bridge the NTEC and CSIT programs. With Pathways in mind, Bob outlined that there had been some discussion of the possibility of creating a shared first year curriculum to provide foundational skills. This would also be a packaged certificate that provides focused general Ed requirements with the 15 credits. Students would also have the opportunity to earn 4 to 5 industry certificates. This would also hopefully address the persistent issues raised by the absence of pre-requisites where an increasing number of students are lacking in English and computational skills.

Bob continued that the CSIT Advisory Committee had voted to approve the outlined program structure as a Certificate of Proficiency, and he asked for feedback from the NTEC members as to it’s potential as a stand-alone foundational certificate, or as the first year of a degree.

Gary expressed concern as to whether an additional certificate was necessary, especially as the College looked for increased graduation rates in the existing certificates.

Nichola asked the committee whether, in their opinion, holding the certificate would make someone employable at an entry level, as this had been the basis of the CSIT Advisory Committee support.

Eric C stated that whilst the industry certifications were attractive, he was not convinced that the certificate alone would be enough to gain employment. He continued that his employer looks for someone who can break down a computer. In addition, the networking fundamentals would not likely be enough to provide the level of skill needed.

Gary outlined that whilst some entry-level positions at his company (and similar bodies such as Verizon etc.) would use the skills outlined, it would not be enough to avoid the company having to invest time into getting an employee trained in other areas. Whilst he recognized that there was some fundamental learning included in the certificate, especially in terms of terminology etc. it would not make a student more attractive over a graduate of the larger programs.

In response to a question from Gary as to whether the Foundation would be part of larger pathways, Dwight outlined that it could be regarded as an exit point as well. Eric C advised caution as the certificate alone would not, in his opinion, be a good guarantee of entry-level employment.

Genevieve added that any program the College attaches a certificate to, there has to be the likelihood of a job within the local region attached to its completion. She recognized the caution of the committee of the certificate standing alone, and indicated that it could be re-worked, or just associated with the CSIT program. Eric O stated that the certificate was more suited for a summer intern: it provided some basic experience but required more development.

Gary stated it was more suited as a structured first year with the potential for specializing in one of the two channels. He continued that most entry-level workers had more skills than those listed.

Genevieve stated that, in recognition of the reservations of the committee, there would not be a vote on the Certificate as it stood, and further work would be undertaken.

Proposed NTEC 4 year degree program: Cyber Security

Dwight outlined that the College instructional Planning Team (IPT) had identified Network Technology as one of the five areas that could potentially support the development of a four-year BAS (Bachelor of Applied Science) Degree. He continued that the proposed focus is cyber security, and the next step will be to prepare a Statement of Need for the IPT by May 12. If all goes ahead, then then Advisory Committee will be involved in assessing curriculum etc. in the fall. He spoke to the fact that the BAS degree could be regarded as a great option for former graduates.

Eric O agreed that specialists in this area are desperately needed in the industry.

Dwight continued that he would need to provide data about employment in the College service district, and to justify the need for a four-year degree as opposed to a two-year program.

Genevieve invited the members to introduce other people in their industry who could be an expert and provide insight into the degree development to participate in the advisory committee.

Dwight the outlined his timeline for the development of the four-year degree: following the submission of the Statement of Need, and if this is passed by IPT, there would then be some further levels of College approval before the proposal is sent to the State. If all is approved there, then curriculum development can begin with a hope to launch the degree in fall 2018. As there is already lab equipment in place, the cost of the degree should be relatively low to implement. In addition, there is also the potential to partner with Lewis McChord Joint Base as they are a member of Cyber Watch West and could possibly provide stipends etc. The goal is that graduates would place in $60k jobs.

Discussion

The committee discussed recent and emerging trends in the industry that could be potential future areas to focus on, recognizing that program changes take some time to develop.

Eric C talked about the demands of mobile applications on the network following the introduction of tablets as kiosks across his workplace.

Eric O detailed how recent customers are implementing augmented reality in project work in the Realty field.

Gary commented that big data analysis, e.g. in cloud services is an area where a trained skill set is needed.

The committee all agreed that, with the growth of mobile retail, security remains a key concern. Other topics included the need to virtualize as part of disaster-readiness. In addition, cloud-based skills remain at the forefront of development across the industry. There is also the continuing issue of ensuring employees have customer service skills.

The committee also recognized that the industry remains under-represented by women and persons of color, and that this is a national issue. Nichola commented that the Advisory Committee should also work to address those issues in terms of the roster. Dwight outlined that companies like Cisco are working to promote women in IT.

Gary adjourned the meeting at 7.59pm.

Prepared by Nichola Farron