



MECHATRONICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES

Tuesday, November 16th, 2021 * 6:00-7:30pm
Zoom Online

Members Present: Zeb Hallmark, Analog Devices (Committee Chair); Jon Pfister, Innotech Controls America; Kevin Moen; Nathan Pierce, Innotech Controls Americas;

Members Absent: Jerome Davis, Botecote; Noah Wass, Elkhart Plastics

Clark College: Ken Luchini, Professor; Larry Smith, Professor; Monte Gantka, Instructor; Teresa Vermillion, Lab Technician/Instructor; Roger Speas, Instructor; Wende Fisher, Educational Planner – Advising; Armetta Burney, Interim Dean – WPTE; SueAnn McWatters, Program Specialist – Advisory Committees

Zeb Hallmark called the meeting to order at 6:03pm and introductions were made.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of December 1st, 2020 were presented: Nathan Pierce motioned to approve. Zeb Hallmark seconded and was unanimously approved.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The committee will next meet on **Tuesday, June 7th, 2022 at 6:00pm.**

The meeting was cancelled as there were not enough members. It was rescheduled to Tuesday, November 29th, 2022 at 6:00pm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE OFFICE OF INSTRUCTION:

Armetta Burney shared the following announcements:

Armetta shared the vision of the state board, which is to lead with racial equity, maximize student potential and transform lives within a culture of belonging that advances racial, social, and economic justice and service to our diverse communities. As employees embrace this vision, we are very focused on closing all equity gaps and making sure that we are embedding the right supports in our system for all our students to thrive.

There are many interim positions at Clark College at the executive cabinet level. We have a new Vice President of Instruction named Paul Wickline who will start in January. We have a new Vice President of Student Affairs named Michele Kruse.

The college is also moving forward with the advanced manufacturing center out in Ridgefield, WA as we have finally received legislative approval. We are in the process of identifying a contractor and hopefully the design build process will be completed and move in December of 2024.

The college is still being impacted by COVID. However, fall quarter has been able to offer more face to face and hybrid classes. The campus will become a fully vaccinated campus. In addition to faculty and staff being fully vaccinated, students will have to be vaccinated or have an approved exemption.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER TRAINING

SueAnn McWatters presented a PowerPoint presentation to the all of the new committee members about what their roles are being apart of this advisory committee.

RESTART GRANT FUNDING FOR EQUIPMENT/SOFTWARE

Armetta Burney spoke on the state board allocating state funding to all the colleges that were interested in applying for the restart funding. The goal of the restart funding was to really help close the gaps for programs that moved to remote to make sure that we had equipment, software, and all the needed to help maintain social distancing.

DEPARTMENT CHANGES/UPDATES/ASSISTANCE

- Chris Lewis has retired
- Roger Godsil has retired – there will be an opening for a full-time instructional technician.
- Roger Speas is the current full-time instructional technician.
- The program is in desperate need of adjunct faculty. If there is anyone that the industry partners have in mind, please contact Armetta Burney or SueAnn McWatters.
- The program is planning to submit a proposal to have an opportunity to open the full-time tenured position back up soon.

RECRUITMENT FOR INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT

What is the industry looking for? We want our capstone students to focus on these types of situations.

- Outside the box thinking
- Engagement solving problems
- Coming up with creative solutions
- Upgrades to certain issues
- High initiative
- Ability to describe in depth and document it very well

The committee spoke about the different options for the capstone course of either being individual or group. They spoke about the pros and cons of a larger group project vs. a smaller group project.

TOOL CHECK OUT FOR STUDENTS

Larry Smith spoke on Ken Luchini's lab kits that he has been sharing with the students. Students can check them out and it seems to be working very well. Students can use the equipment on what they've built rather than relying solely on the circuit simulators.

INDUSTRY UPDATES

Zeb Hallmark asked the members to come up with some topics or suggestions they face in their roles in the industry.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:31pm.

Prepared by SueAnn McWatters