

**MECHATRONICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES**

**Thursday, June 13th, 2019 \* 5:00-7:00pm**

**CTC, Room 202**

**Members Present:** Zeb Hallmark, Analog Devices (Committee Chair); Steven Park, Analog Devices; Dan Wahlstrom, Simonds International

**Members Absent:** Silviu Spiridon, Analog Devices (Vice Committee Chair); Chris Taylor, Daimler Trucks North America;

**Guests:** Chris’ Parents

**Clark College:** Chris Lewis, Department Head; Ken Luchini, Teresa Vermillion – Instructors; Wende Fisher, Educational Planner – Advising; Cathy Sherick, Associate Director of Instructional Planning and Innovation; SueAnn McWatters, Program Specialist – Advisory Committees

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Zeb Hallmark called the meeting to order at 5:06pm and introductions were made.

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

*The minutes of October 16th, 2018 were presented: as quorum was not present, the minutes were sent out for electronic approval. As of July 17th, 2019, the minutes have been approved.*

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

The committee will next meet on **Tuesday, October 15th, 2019 at 6:00pm in CTC 202.**

**DEBRIEF CAPSTONE PROJECTS**

Zeb Hallmark stated that the students did a great job. Chris Lewis brought a copy of their final report.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE OFFICE OF INSTRUCTION:**

Cathy shared the following announcements:

She provided a brief update about what is happening on campus with Pathways work, the publication of the insert in February, the upcoming transition from our legacy computer system to the People Soft system that will be used statewide and pending budget decisions. Committees are asked to curtail scheduling meetings during the last two weeks of October to allow for this switch.

President Bob Knight is retiring at the end of August. There will be an interim President for the next academic year for 19-20 before a permanent President is put in place. The current Dean of Professional/Technical programs Genevieve Howard is going to be the new interim Associate Vice President of Instruction. Armetta Burney will be taking over as the interim Dean for PTE.

Due to low enrollment the campus will see a significant budget reduction in 2019-20, with programs being eliminated. This will incur additional faculty and staff cuts. Cathy’s position is one that will be eliminated, ending June 30, 2019, so this will be her final advisory meeting. She thanked the advisory members and their work that they do for the college.

Dan Wahlstrom noticed that CADD and Machining will be cut from the college. Cathy added on that BTEC and Surveying & Geomatics will also be cut. However, many of these programs will be rolled or folded into other programs. CADD/Surveying and Geomatics will roll into Engineering, BTEC will roll into Business Administration, and Machining will roll into Advanced Manufacturing.

**UPDATE ON NEW MECHATRONICS PROGRAM**

Chris Lewis spoke on the waitlists for the program. The new mechatronics program launches in the summer with full enrollments with both incoming and continuing students. They will have to open more sections in order to fulfill the need, however he is trying not to overload the classes. Full enrollment is 16 students, but there is enough equipment for only 8 students.

**INCREASING EQUIPMENT**

SEH has committed to equipment funding. In order for the college to bring in their employees for training, they have to provide the equipment/inventory to be able to do so.

* Hydraulic training stations
* Pneumatic training stations
* Mechanical training
  + There are currently 2, however he needs at least 6 more. He does have 1 in line for purchase in the budget.
* PLCs
  + Siemens offered to provide more PLC machines, however they will most likely not be delivered until winter 2020.

Chris asked the committee to suggest ideas on how to acquire more equipment.

* Zeb suggested moving the students to the evening courses in order to alleviate the necessity on the machines.
* Working with other companies
  + Cathy Sherick spoke on potentially working with other organizations like Siemens, however Chris stated that there hasn’t been a lot of interest.

**ADVANCED MANUFACTURING CENTER UPDATE**

The budget for the state of Washington was ranked and presented. Clark College made a request for funding, however it was ranked at number 20. The state ranked up to 17. At this point, the building is about a year or two behind. The welding instructor is still on 100% release time to continue to design the building.

Chris spoke on the Underwriter’s Laboratory location. It is being vacated. There are some rumors going around that a Centers of Excellence is going to posted somewhere in the region, however it hasn’t been determined specifically where or who it will be partnered with.

Zeb Hallmark stated that he will discuss the location of the mechatronics program in the future and see what they think.

Steven Park spoke on others close to this facility like Silicon Forest.

**INDUSTRY UPDATES**

The CEO of Analog devices will be making a first time appearance. They will try to argue for more investment at the local location. When they did a survey of all the engineering staff, out of a group of 25 engineers, there were close to 500 man years of experience and close to 28 companies on one floor. The equipment group had close to 900 man years of experience. They are now being told to get rid of the service contracts in order to train people up.

Dan Whalstrom from MicroPump has a graduate from Clark working for them. The student is doing more industrial maintenance. There are a variety of industries that the company works with.

Wende Fisher explained that Advising has started new student orientation where they are planning their education plan and career plan. Graduation is next Thursday, June 20th so students are very excited for that next step.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45pm.

Prepared by SueAnn McWatters