

**NETWORK TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES**

**Tuesday, March 5, 2019 \* 5:30 – 7:00pm**

**Joan Stout Hall, 248**

**Members Present:** Eric Olmsted (Vice Chair), On Line Support; Eric Cowen, Columbia Machine; Michael Jaeger, IRely;

**Members Absent:** Brian MacKay (Committee Chair), The Columbian Publishing Co.; Steve Bohling, Clark PUD; Brian Page, Fortinet; Gary Liberman, EarthLink; Patrick Rancore, Windstream

**Clark College:** Dwight Hughes, Network Technology Department Head; Adam Coleman, CTEC Instructor; Genevieve Howard, Dean of WPTE; Kathy Chennault, Foundation; Travis Kibota, Interim Associate Vice President of OOI; Wende Fisher, Advising; SueAnn McWatters, Program Specialist – Advisory Committees

Committee Vice Chair Eric Olmsted called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

*The minutes of October 2, 2018 were presented: Michael Jaeger made a motion to approve; this was seconded by Eric Cowen and passed unanimously.*

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

The committee will meet next on **Tuesday, May 21st, 2019 at 5:30pm.**

**OFFICE OF INSTRUCTION UPDATES**

SueAnn McWatters made the following announcements:

Clark College completed NWCCU evaluation this summer and has successfully met the standards for accreditation, thank you to the Advisory Committee members who were able to participate in a luncheon with the accreditors.

Currently the College is looking at significant budgetary shortfalls, caused by a flattening of enrollment and an increase in the cost of must-fund expenses. The college will use the budgetary structure recommended by the Economic Vitality Council the Executive Cabinet will be looking this month at strategies to solve the shortfall. The College must also find a way to fund critical initiatives, such as Guided Pathways and CTCLink computer program. This has resulted in reductions beyond the amount required to cover just the must-fund expenses. It is anticipated that this work will be ramping up in March with final budget adoption in the spring.

The entire college continues work to support the guided pathways initiative, increasing student enrollment, strengthening our technology infrastructure, balance the budget and place equity at the heart of all our decision-making.

* Professional Technical Day is February 28, 2019.
* All committees need to be working on getting a student on the Advisory Committee. Students can be paid a stipend through ASCC for their participation.

Transitional studies and CTE programs will be working more closely together to ensure students move more seamlessly from one program to another. Support for that work includes the implementation of I-Best classes, where the course instructor is matched with an additional faculty trained to provide additional assistance to students.

**CYBER SECRUITY BAS UPDATES**

*State/Accreditation Approval Status*

The state unanimously approved the cyber BAS. It has now been moved forward to the NWCCU. Once it is approved, the college can start publicizing it and offering it.

*Start Date Status*

The Vice President of Instruction has decided to wait a year before introducing it (fall 2020).

*Faculty/Staffing Status*

The goal is to hire an instructor and teach a light course load in order to develop a curriculum. Genevieve Howard agreed that once the program hears from the accrediting body that it is approved, we can start putting the word out and then hire a faculty member to fill the role. The college can also market the program more and make sure that the enrollment is strong right out of the gate.

The Cyber Security BAS is going to happen and is approved, but the roll out date is less rushed. It has been much easier to work with enrollment and advising with the extra time.

Kathy asked if the program would need funding support. Both Genevieve and Dwight are always looking for money.

**STACKABLE CERTIFICATIONS**

Dwight is currently working on a grant to help with the funding of these certifications to build bridges between K-12 with the 2 year degree by helping the degree be more flexible and industry focused. The program currently has a network technician certificate or a network admin degree.

The goal is to identify minimal skills sets that people can get a job with. There are funding providers (unemployment offices) that want to pay for small trainings. Dwight asked the committee to help with job descriptions from their industry so that he can pick the lowest/entry level skills to start refining them into groups.

Eric Olmsted stated that the college should talk to Partners in Careers. They work with people that are just starting out. He spoke on the positive impact of have stackable certifications. It would be helpful for existing employees who want to learn more. Dwight explained that this would be more focused on people that no prior knowledge of IT. Another term for this is called micro-credentialing, which is considered lower than industry certifications. This would be about three weeks of learning on the subject, like Windows 101 or learning a routing protocol. This is somewhat similar to getting a badge. Eric Cowen stated that his organization looks for A+ or CompTIA network+ skills sets. Adam Coleman also suggested MPAs, operating systems, networking servers, etc. would all be helpful. Identifying the right focuses will be key. Disability compliances are also involved, so there will be closed caption on all of the videos offered.

Eric Olmsted spoke about the college partnering with one of the vendors like SonicWall that could potentially provide the software. If one vendor gets involved, the rest will and then you can have a pathway that is vendor specific. Dwight explained that the challenge would be identifying prerequisites. Travis Kibota stated that working with vendors requires many stipulations and costs. Genevieve explained that partnerships with vendors means that the college is saying that they have been approved by the state and by us; it’s proprietary.

Dwight stated that there are also challenges with working with vendors depending on how often they are updating their software and textbooks.

**TEACHER SHORTAGE**

Dwight discussed the issue of teachers traveling or moving. There are only about 50% FTE of teachers in NTEC annually. The college has to replace them every year, which isn’t easy. The program needs help with qualified adjuncts/faculty.

* Need to have the certification to be able to teach
* Have worked or are working in the industry
* Can hire with a high school diploma

The pay is about $45,000/year for a full time teacher. It is $55/hr for every hour they are teaching in the classroom. Grading, lesson prep, etc. is on their own time. They will get a $200 stipend for the final.

Even someone with no teaching background can come in as a guest speaker/lecturer. The students value those who have worked in the industry and know the subject.

Job shadow opportunities would be great as well. Even an hour or two hours would be great. Students just want to get a flavor of what people do in this industry. They are usually surprised by how much desk and phone work there is. Eric Cowen and Eric Olmsted both offered their organizations per discussions with their superiors and HR.

**Action Item:**

* **Eric Cowen/Eric Olmsted will talk to their HR departments about potential job shadow opportunities.**

Kathy Chennault offered to help in finding volunteers to come in as guest speakers.

**KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES**

*Need Current Job Descriptions*

As previously stated, the program needs to mine out skills and abilities and then group them out. Any and all job descriptions would be helpful in order to build the CBAS degree based off of local jobs. Another important skill set that has been occurring has been firewall training.

*Upcoming Employer Survey*

Dwight is working with Planning and Effectiveness to create a quick 5-6 question survey for employers.

*What Are We Missing?*

Dwight will list out what skills and abilities that are currently being offered in our degrees. He will then ask you what’s missing. Hopefully it’ll be quick and easy.

*What Are We Teaching That Isn’t Relevant?*

What do we need to get rid of?

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm.

Prepared by SueAnn McWatters