



SURVEYING & GEOMATICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Thursday, February 12, 2015

3:00—5:00 p.m.

Meeting Room: T-Building room 101

Members Present: Weston Dorszynski, P.L.S., Committee Chair, City of Vancouver Survey Dept.; Larry Goble, P.L.S. P.E., Western Federal Highway Administration; John Thomas, P.L.S., WDOT, Retired; Mike Swanson, Olympic, Mt. Hood National Forest Service

Ex-Officio Members Present: Matt Faulkner, WH Pacific; Carla Meritt, MacKay Sposito; Chris Sherby, MacKay Sposito, Inc.

Members Absent: Janet Wilkins, Bureau of Land Management; Ken Paul, P.L.S., Clark County Public Works; Jeff Lynch, City of Vancouver;

Clark College: Tim Kent, P.L.S., Surveying Program Coordinator/Professor; Carol Hsu, Eng/Surv Department Head; Peter Williams, Dean of STEM; Brianna Lisenbee, Career Services; Andreana DiGiorgio, Secretary Sr., Advisory Committees

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair, Weston Dorszynski at 12:10 p.m.

A motion was made to approve the October 9, 2015 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved by the members.

Office of Instruction updates

Andreana reminded the members of the *Advisory Committee Recognition Breakfast* on March 18, 2015 from 7:30—9:00 a.m. She said that both Bob Knight and Tim Cook will speak as will Regional economist Scott Bailey will be guest speaker and will give an economic report on the state of Washington and also our region. She said an invitation recently went out via email and to please RSVP if they plan to attend.

Director/Division Chair Report

Carol Hsu explained that there is no longer a “division chair” of the CADD, Engineering, Surveying & Geomatics, etc., departments and now there are department heads for those. Carol is the new department head of Engineering and Surveying & Geomatics.

Tim outlined the status of faculty in the department. He said he has eight instructors and thanked the ones who were at the meeting for their commitment. He said that the course description that the committee voted on last meeting have been approved and now will go to IPT Instructional Planning Team.

Tim said he’s always looking for instructors and so if anyone knows of anyone who might want to teach to let him know. Chris asked if they could hire a full time instructor instead of having eight adjuncts. Peter Williams answered that he’d love to have this request directly from the members and he will advocate for that. One issue is that this year’s budget is about 4% lower than last year so the budget is pretty stressed. He said currently there is no funding for tenure track instructors planned for the next year. However, he has made a very strong case for a tenure track position for STEM. Approximately 66% are adjuncts and added that this is fairly normal for the area.

Scholarship Opportunities –Tim said he and Erielle are currently on a scholarship committee. Mostly discussions looking at opportunities both internal & external scholarships. He said believe it or not, it's very difficult to get the students to apply for these scholarships and added that Fresno offers \$50,000 in scholarship money and have no problem giving their money away. Peter suggested having a student talk to the students. Carla & Brianna said that they are hiring a financially literacy coach. She said the students are intimidated by having to write an essay for the scholarships. Carla said she would be available to talk with the students.

Student Employment Update. The two state societies, LSAW and PLSO had their annual meeting where students were invited. Tim sent out student resumes and students started getting emails back. BLM in Sacramento called about one of the students. Next Wednesday Brian Miyake knows someone at SEH America and has offered to do a one on one resume writing workshop for students.

Tim closed his report by saying that all is going well with currently 22 in the program. The program has all necessary equipment is in place, and he's working well with Facilities Director Tim Petit on campus GIS. City of Vancouver would like to know where all the drains are on campus so Matt and his students will locate all the drains and give the locations report to the city and Clark College. A tree survey was done and all the trees on campus have been identified by species, Latin name, family, but no spatial location. Washington is down to two schools in the state.

Work Plan

Weston lead the committee through the work plan and changes were made where necessary. For a copy of the current work plan, go to <http://www.clark.edu/advisory/index.php> and click on Surveying & Geomatics in the column on the right. Some highlights are below:

There will be an annual review every December for the articulation agreement with OIT through Clark's curriculum process. Changed to Ongoing.

Tim said ABET is a worldwide accreditation association. The time commitment to get accredited is one year and that's good for six years. He said ABET is a very expensive opportunity and they seem to be very secretive. Tim will get some cost and time information and report back next meeting.

Carol talked about the Program Improvement Process (PIP). Meeting tomorrow to tell where surveying is, job outlook, and other data. Washington reports that there will be only 6 surveying openings in the next 5 years. Seems extremely low.

New Business

Carla reported that TwiST, the Teaching with Spatial Technology organization will be taking place again at Clark College, sponsored by OIT. Two teachers from 12 western states will meet in June to teach teachers about GIS and surveying. Carla said they don't have their two teachers recruited from Washington yet so if anyone has knowledge of a teacher that has interest in this, please let Carla know.

Discussion of student exposure to emerging technology in the survey profession. Tim said there are 5 or 6 technologies that the program doesn't currently reach, including GPS and robotics. Should they look at these and add a little exposure to them in current classes? Where do these fit into the program and how would we fund equipment? What are the emerging technologies? Maybe a LSAW Saturday workshop? They will get exposure and even learn some of these new technologies at OIT but Tim asks should we do this at the technician level? Exposure is important; how it's implemented could be a great enhancement or a detractor. Much discussion about this. Moving forward, Carla thought the committee should begin thinking about "industrial technology".

An event sponsored by the alumni association called the Penguin Alumni Business Tours will take place at MacKay Sposito which hopes to connect Clark students and alumni with community partners. Guests will meet the MacKay Sposito staff, hear their “Clark story” and tour their operations. The event is February 26, 2015 at the MacKay Sposito offices and begins at 5:00 pm.

Next Meeting Date

Thursday, October 8, 2015 at noon. Weston adjourned the meeting at 1:57 pm.

Prepared and submitted by Andreana DiGiorgio