

**SURVEYING & GEOMATICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES**

**Thursday, May 9, 2019**

**12.00 – 2.00 p.m. \* SCI 122**

**Members Present:** Paul Galli (Committee Chair) P.L.S., Cowlitz County; John Besancon (Vice Chair), Clark Co. Surveyor’s Office; Weston Dorszynski, P.L.S., City of Vancouver Survey Dept.; Larry Goble, P.L.S. P.E., Federal Highway Administration; ; Cindy Halcumb, KC Development; Don Hardy, WSP; Jeff Lynch, P.L.S., City of Vancouver Survey Department; Mike Swanson, P.L.S., Western Federal Highway Administration; Michael Wanchick, P.L.S., Federal Highway Administration; Chuck Whitten, P.L.S., Ret.;

**Members Absent:** Ken Paul, P.L.S., Clark County Public Works;

**Guests:** Keith Halcumb, KC Development; Laura Randall, nConnect

**Clark College:** Tim Kent, P.L.S., Surveying Program Coordinator/Professor; Erielle Lamb, Chris Sherby; S&F Land Services – Adjunct Instructors; Tina Barsotti, Engineering Professor; Peter Williams, Dean of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math; April Cannon, Advising; Cathy Sherick, Assoc. Dir. Of Instructional Planning & Innovation; SueAnn McWatters, Program Specialist – Advisory Committees,

Committee chair Paul Galli called the meeting to order at 12:06pm and introductions were made.

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

*The minutes of November 1st, 2018 were presented; Weston Dorszynski made a motion to approve the minutes as written, this was seconded by Paul Galli and was unanimously approved.*

**NEXT MEETIND DATE**

The committee will meet again on **Thursday, November 14th at Noon.**

*The meeting was cancelled and rescheduled to Thursday, February 20th, 2020 at Noon.*

**OFFICE OF INSTRUCTION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Cathy Sherick made the following announcements:

She presented the Professional/Technical inserts that were distributed in The Columbian.

Cathy Sherick provided a brief update about what is happening on campus with Pathways work, the publication of the insert in February, and 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.

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.

Peter Williams addressed the Surveying & Geomatics budget cuts and announced that there is no current funding for the program. Tim Kent and Tina Barsotti have met with Hal Abrams in Foundation who will reach out to Al Schauer and Jerry Olsen to potentially provide support. The next step is meeting with Dr. Sachi Horback, the VP of Instruction. Tina Barsotti explained that trying to come up with permanent funding is difficult and going online might help the situation. The reality is that the program isn’t budgeted right now. The committee continued discussions about how the money is budgeted and what it would take to find permanent funding for the program.

Cindy Halcumb explained that there is a need in the industry for surveyors. Tina Barsotti stated that the numbers received from the state says the opposite and that’s the data that the college is required to use. Cathy discussed how it works and what it means. The problem comes from the fact that the skills are being wound into a position however the title “survey” isn’t in the title so it’s not included in the data. Many of the committee stated that a lot of their titles are also explained as “engineering.” Cindy spoke on many engineers having a background in surveying is always a good skill.

Weston asked about the articulation agreements with Oregon Tech. Tina explained that they would EXPAND the articulation agreement to include the “engineering tech.”

Laura Randall spoke about the online piece and connecting students in the field. Being able to work while continuing their education and creating pathways is a key component. This program is specifically designed for the working person (so it’s an evening/weekend program). Mike Swanson stated that many students in the course already have job offers or jobs by the time spring/summer comes around. Tim spoke about Renton Technical College and how they have 4 students. They decided to teach Mondays and Tuesdays, and then the students would work Wednesday, Thursday, Friday.

**OUTREACH EFFORTS (LAURA RANDALL)**

Laura Randall spoke about the different engagement points. They work closely with MacKay Sposito in this industry sector. They also work with the STEM network and also IT networks and companies to create that pathway. Their goal is to figure out what and where are the workforce needs? Training can only go so far without the connection to the industry. Students need opportunities to be launched in that career. Some questions to think about:

* If there are employers that have participated in events at the schools (k-20), what awareness activities are industry members involved in? What type?
* Would providing a flipped internship where the industry comes into the classroom and mentors the students to see what they are doing to provide feedback and real world knowledge be beneficial?
* Once students have done this, what is the next step?
* Once a student is interested, where do they go from there? Is it Clark?
* What are the experiences for the industry that have gone into the schools?

We need to think about what this generation is and why it is important. We can’t just feed students information about the Surveying program but be able to cross the career and lifestyle together. We do this by having conversations and doing project work and showing them what it’s all about.

Don Hardy explained that Vancouver Public Schools does a great job of doing those industry specific days. It’s great exposure.

If anyone would like to reach out, she’d be happy to have a conversation.

**CURRICULUM MAPPING**

Part 1: Take away the ethics course of one credit and add it into SURV&1221 and 122

Part 2: Add the one credit to SURV&253 as there needs to be more lab time

**Weston moved to eliminate the ethics course and integrate it into SURV&121 and 122 and add that credit into SURV&253 course, Michael Wanchick seconded, and was unanimously approved.**

**ADVISING UPDATE**

Tim spoke about a disconnect between advising and STEM. There is much better coordination recently between the students and the program. Pathways has been a big help.

**STUDENT RETENTION**

Tim stated that student retention is okay, but it could be better.

**INDUSTRY UPDATES**

Renton Technical College is hoping that their new program works.

Indra retired. Brian will take over the math projection teaching.

They are working with facilities on a GIS. Tim Petta was very excited to see what it can do for the campus. Chris Sherby is doing a lot of imagery.

Weston asked about Yakima’s externship program since the company pays the school and then the school pays the interns. Timothy Kent stated that they would need to do a lot of research and see if this would be possible. Cathy Sherick called it “earn and learn.” The models are increasing across the state. In terms of the externship, it might have to do with the risk management issue and the company not wanting to take on the risk of the student. Weston stated that the night offerings is already allowing the students to work; is it easier to do the 2/3 (two days of school, three days of work) model or have them home every night. Chris Sherby explained that it’s been easier having them work in the day and then take courses in the evening.

Erielle Lamb explained that as an adjunct, she wouldn’t be able to teach in the day.

Mike Swanson asked for data on the bell curve of the age of the surveyors that are in the current courses.

Cathy Sherick explained that the industry who pull students out lose their ROI. Until industry allow students to finish their degree, you are not getting your full return on investment.

Meeting adjourned at 1:31pm.

Prepared by SueAnn McWatters