

**SURVEYING & GEOMATICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES**

**Thursday, November 5th, 2020**

**12.00 – 1:30p.m. \* Zoom Online**

**Members Present:** Paul Galli (Committee Chair) P.L.S., Cowlitz County Public Works; 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; Jeff Lynch, P.L.S., City of Vancouver Survey Department; Chuck Whitten, P.L.S., Ret.;

**Members Absent:** Cindy Halcumb, KC Development; Don Hardy, WSP; Ken Paul, P.L.S., Clark County Public Works; Mike Swanson, P.L.S., BLM; Michael Wanchick, P.L.S., Federal High Administration;

**Guests:** Hal Abrams, Foundation;

**Clark College:** Tim Kent, P.L.S., Surveying Program Coordinator/Professor; Tina Barsotti, Engineering Professor; Chris Sherby, Instructor; Carla Merritt, Instructor; Peter Williams, Dean of STEM; Renee Schiffhauer, Associate Director of Advising; SueAnn McWatters, Program Specialist – Advisory Committees

Committee Chair Paul Galli called the meeting to order at 12:004pm and introductions were made.

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

*The minutes of February 20th, 2020 were presented; Jeff Lynch made a motion to approve the minutes as written, this was seconded by Larry Goble and was unanimously approved.*

**NEXT MEETIND DATE**

The committee will meet again on **Thursday, November 4th, 2021 at Noon.**

**OFFICE OF INSTRUCTION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Timothy Kent/SueAnn McWatters made the following announcements:

We do have a new President. Her name is Dr. Karin Edwards.

The college has gone through significant budget cuts. As part of the process, they eliminated the STEM unit, however all of the programs/classes/departments will stay the same. Peter William’s position was also eliminated. The state’s revenue has also greatly decreased due to COVID 19. It is anticipated that the college may see as much as a 10% cut from the legislature.

Winter term will be in remote operations with the exception of certain programs. A decision has not yet been made for what modality the college will be in for spring term.

Enrollment is at 87% of the fall FTE target and 92% for the running start students.

The college is working very hard to rebrand the site at Clark East. Now that economic and community development are under the realm of instruction, the college is working very diligently on developing non-credit opportunities for our community members.

**PROGRAM UPDATES (TIMOTHY KENT)**

Timothy Kent stated that there is a push for engineering to include CADD and Surveying. The program has survived so far. Due to COVID, no one has been on campus. We’re completely online and will continue to be online for winter term. Tim is now a huge advocate of Canvas and its uses.

**STUDENT RETENTION**

The program lost 3 students based off of financial hardship. They said they hope to come back. There are at least 32 students in the program; not necessarily full time. There are 9 students in both the SURV 104: Computation and Platting and SURV 102: Fundamentals of Survey courses and 5 students in SURV 225: Subdivision Planning A & Platting. There are also 7 students in SURV 203: Legal Descriptions.

He has also done 3 interviews online for spring term.

Tim would like to do a bigger push to recruit women.

**PROGRAM DONATIONS (HAL ABRAMS)**

Hal Abrams spoke on last year’s quick turnaround to raise at least $30k a year to keep the program. Timothy Kent and Tina Barsotti helped reach out to community partners and really worked with them to raise the funds. Some of the students are really having difficulty through this pandemic. The bottom line is that we need to continue to support the needs of the program, but scholarships are also available. There is also some equipment needed. The program is stable, but anything the committee can do to help is very much appreciated because there are some investment needs.

**PERKINS FUNDS AND NSF GRANT OPPORTUNITY**

Timothy Kent explained that the Perkins funds have been very helpful however there is a $5k cap per requisition. The program has made about 5-6 purchases.

Tina and Tim were approached by PCC’s Geomatics program about a National Science Foundation grant that provides a significant amount of funds. There is already an NSF grant in the process at the college and so Tim is looking into maybe piggybacking off working together.

**ONLINE OPPORTUNITIES**

Timothy Kent talked about how to do to remote labs online. He emailed Great Basin College in Nevada, who has a 4 year degree online, to get some insight into how they run theirs. There are no contracts with non-college employees. They do have a lab manual.

He also spoke with Umpqua Community College who has inquired about online learning. The program is look at the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA), which is an agreement among member states that establishes comparable national standards for interstate offering for post-secondary distance education courses and programs. For online instruction only, the tuition is the same for all students. Washington State is a part of this agreement.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Weston Dorszynski stated that his organization is not hiring this year, including interns.

John Besancon agreed that his company has a hiring freeze. They had to let go of all temporary employees.

Meeting adjourned at 1:06pm.

Prepared by SueAnn McWatters