

**SURVEYING & GEOMATICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

**Thursday 27th October**

**12.00 – 2.00 p.m. \* Science Block 122**

**Members Present:** Weston Dorszynski, P.L.S., Committee Chair, City of Vancouver Survey Dept.; Ken Paul, P.L.S., Clark County Public Works; Mike Swanson, P.L.S., Western Federal Highway Administration; Paul Galli, P.L.S., Cowlitz County; John Besancon, Clark Co. Surveyor’s Office; Chuck Whitten, Ret.

**Members Absent:** John Thomas, P.L.S., WDOT, Retired; Larry Goble, P.L.S. P.E., Western Federal Highway Administration; Jeff Lynch, P.L.S., City of Vancouver Survey Department;

**Guests:** Daniel Seyller, Jason Morton – students in the program

**Clark College:** Tim Kent, P.L.S., Surveying Program Coordinator/Professor; Tina Barsotti, Engineering Professor; Adjunct Instructional Staff – Indra Wijayratne, Chris Sherby; Peter Williams, Dean of STEM; Cathy Sherick, Assoc. Dir. Of Instructional Planning & Innovation; Brianna Lisenbee, Career Services; Nichola Farron, Secretary Senior – Advisory Committees

Committee Chair Weston Dorszynski called the meeting to order at 12.06 and introductions were made, including new members John (a graduate of the program), Chuck who volunteers with field work, and students Daniel and Jason

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

*The Minutes of 5th May 2016 were presented for approval. The motion to accept the minutes as written was made by John, seconded by Paul and unanimously approved.*

Next Meeting Date

The Committee will meet again on Thursday 27th April 2017 at noon.

Office of Instruction Updates

Cathy Sherick made the following announcements:

The theme “Transformation” is being used to describe two large intersecting initiatives. One is the Academic Plan, which will guide Clark’s programs and student services over the next five years. The first goal of the plan is to implement Guided Pathways, the second large initiative.

All Washington State community colleges will implement Guided Pathways. This is aligning schedules and building program *pathways* that have clearer more defined structures, saving students time and money getting to graduation. Training for advisory members on Guided Pathways will be on March 24.

Specific *transformations* that advisory members will see this year include a *r*edesign of the meeting agenda format. This provides faculty and committees with a connection to the academic plan and will streamline the meeting while including committee work plan activities. The committee composition will now include students and Clark Alumnae. Students will be able to earn a small stipend and a letter of recommendation for their attendance and participation. Piloted this year, we hope that students will be a regular and vital presence on every committee in the future.

Transforming the role of committee members, from just meeting attendees to being a part of our learning community. Not just trainings, the series of Business and Community Learning events on campus are set up to be quick and friendly ‘lunch and learn’ opportunities. FREE and open to the public, the workshops will be scheduled from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and held in the Gaiser Student Center, allowing people to attend on their lunch hour. Food is available in the carts on campus, and guests are welcome to bring their brown bag. Additional information to follow in emails.

* Friday December 9th Advocacy
* Friday February 24th Millennials in the Workforce
* Friday March 24th Pathways
* Friday May 19th The Power of Completion

An evening event will be planned in the Spring to thank our advisory committee members for their time and expertise. Look for information during winter term.

A complete computer systems upgrade to campus registration, human resources and finance systems. The ‘go-live’ date for will be January 30. It will not impact the advisory committees, but it will impact campus business so there will be a moratorium on advisory meetings from mid-January to mid-February.

The new Bachelor of Applied Science in Applied Management (BASAM) is accepting students beginning winter term 2017. For additional information go to: <http://www.clark.edu/academics/programs/bus/basam/index.php>

Business Plan Update

Tim outlined that he and Tina had met with VP Cook to discuss the business plan to prove the economic viability and sustainability for the program. The main concern remains increasing the number of graduates: completion is required for College statistics. In fact, this was the impetus behind the creation of the one-year certificate. The program needs 8 or 9 graduates and is currently at 4: there will be a continued push for advertising, internal recruitment etc.

Tim continued that, although the new STEM building was now open, Surveying will remain in the Science block where a classroom is being prepared as a permanent home to replace the current teaching accommodations in Anna Pechanec Hall. It was felt that the transportation of equipment between main campus and the STEM building was not logistically possible or safe for the instruments.

Tim shared that, as part of the efforts to strengthen outreach, Surveying is now included in every engineering event.

Tina asked committee members what measures Clark could take to better connect with companies. Weston outlined that it would be beneficial if employees could be sent to take individual classes, rather than having to commit to the whole program.

This lead to further conversation about the need for Employers to commit to not hiring students before completion. It was agreed that promoting the certificates would be beneficial. In addition, the committee discussed the options for pursuing ‘credit for prior learning’ where work experience could be applied towards credit awards.

The committee then looked at the composition of the certificate: Tim cautioned that the lack of inclusion of upper level math in the certificate continues to be an issue.

Cathy then invited the students to share with the committee their reasons for selecting the program. Jason outlined that his love of the outdoors was a big factor, and he felt this would be a good selling point to high school students. The Committee then discussed how geocaching could be integrated as an outreach tool to highlight the potential for the program. Chuck voiced how geocaching represents the skills of surveyors across the centuries. It was agreed that the ‘working outdoors’ factor is a huge incentive for millennials.

Daniel spoke of his love of math and trigonometry as factors in his program choice, and indicated how he is also taking CADD to complement his learning.

Review of course descriptions

The committee reviewed the course descriptions: Tim spoke about how there have not been edits or significant changes for a few years. He invited comments about wording, and also if courses were still relevant.

* SURV199 Co Op Work Experience: Tim outlined that the goals are set with students and then the credit level is decided upon
* SURV253 Intro to GPS: Tim shared that there has been some staff turnover this year. In addition, the program does not have survey-grade GPS equipment. Tim has conversed with vendors, and rental continues to be an option.
* SURV 280 Selected Topics: this is used when students need additional credits, and is a standard for the College.
* In response to a question from Ken as to whether 252 and 253 are undertaken concurrently, Tim reiterated that it is not economically viable to have equipment unused for 9 months.
* SURV 102 Fundamentals of Survey: Mike cautioned that some of the terms in the course description for 102 are very specific and might not be understood by students exploring classes. He proposed that more general terms be used, and that perhaps that would be the place to mention geocaching, and that it be more enticing for students.
* SURV104 Computation and Platting: Chris Sherby is looking at developing this in terms of online teaching.

Chuck suggested that the overall description contain reference to working with attorneys and the public, and emphasizes the use of math and physics.

Tina also discussed the need to maintain consistent credits so that transfer options are open for students.

John also asked about the potential of promoting the program to Running Start students: Dean Williams shared that there are some challenges to that, especially with the push for that category of students to complete an AA degree.

Cathy outlined that she could investigate potential articulation possibilities for the program.

The committee also recognized the increasing importance of having diversity represented in the program and committee as a whole. Weston cited a persistent lack in the applicant pool to fulfill these needs,

ABET Accreditation: Tim explained to the committee that there is an economic consideration to pursuing the accreditation as it is expensive for a 2-year school. Weston continued that the Western Federation of Professional Surveyors, of which he is a member, recently voted to award scholarships to 2 year schools, but one of the requirements is ABET accreditation. Tim also added that in Idaho, graduation from an ABET school is a requirement for licensure. As such the issue needs further consideration and discussion.

Build Campus GIS – Tim reported that this project has been indefinitely postponed due to lack of funding to cover the student wages required.

Advertising – Tina and Tim talked about budgetary constraints on advertising, despite its proven effectiveness. Cathy outlined that there might be some possibilities for accessing funds in the Perkins budget to assist.

Election of officers

*Ken Paul was nominated for the office of Committee Chair by Paul, this was seconded by John. Paul Galli was nominated for Vice Chair by Mike, this was seconded by Weston.*

*These nominations were passed with unanimous approval.*

Weston adjourned the meeting at 1.51

Tim offered to show the new SCI 123 set up to the committee members following the meeting.

Prepared by Nichola Farron