ATTENDEES

CT State Colleges & Universities

Karen Wosczyna-Birch, Executive Director, College of Technology – Regional Center for Next Generation Manufacturing
Wendy Robicheau, Project Manager, College of Technology – Regional Center for Next Generation Manufacturing
Sue Spencer, Program Coordinator, Gateway CC
Steven Moore, Faculty, Manchester CC
Stephen LaPointe, Director, Advanced Manufacturing Technology Center, Quinebaug Valley CC
Eric Flynn, Department Chair – Engineering & Applied Technologies, Gateway CC
Mary Bidwell, Dean of Advanced Manufacturing, Asnuntuck & Tunxis Community Colleges
Adam Scobie, Instructor, Housatonic Community College
Stella Litwinowicz, Assistant Professor, Math/Engineering
Felisha G. Fleurimond, Recruitment/Retention Coordinator, Housatonic CC
H. Justin Moore, Associate Dean, Naugatuck Valley CC
Joe DeFeo, Director, Naugatuck Valley CC
Lin Lin, Program Coordinator, Middlesex CC
Jakob Spjut, Program Coordinator, Quinebaug Valley CC
Mathew Spinelli, STEAM Director, Tunxis Community College
Mark Vesligaj, Program Coordinator, Three Rivers CC
Mobin Rastgar Agah, Professor, Norwalk CC

Other College & Universities

Matthew Enjalran, Professor & Chair, Physics, Southern CT State University
Omar Abuzaghleh, Assistant Professor, University of Bridgeport
Aaron Clark, Southern CT State University
Segun Odesina, Associate Dean, Central CT State University

High Schools

Cristina Stisser, Manufacturing Cluster, CT Technical Education & Career System

MINUTES

Welcome Remarks – Dr. Therese Bennett, Associate Dean of STEM, Southern CT State University (SCSU)

- The Associate Dean of STEM position is new to SCSU and began in August.
- SCSU is putting in a grant to the National Science Foundation's LSAMP program, which would benefit all four universities in the system.
- The new science building at SCSU houses the Center for Nanotechnology.
- SCSU also has funding for students to participate in research.

Introductions & Updates – All Attendees

- Segun Odesina of Central CT State University (CSCU) reported that CSCU will begin their B.S. in Electrical Engineering in 2020. They are also looking into a gaming program and a B.S. in Industrial Engineering and Aerospace Engineering.
- Sue Spencer of Gateway CC reported that they will be replicating the Data Science program that Northwestern CT CC just had approved.

Biotech at SCSU - Dr. Therese Bennett, Associate Dean of STEM, SCSU

- The Biotech program was developed as part of a biotech pathway with the City of New Haven. Biotech is one of the industries that the governor wants to grow.

- Students in this program will automatically get a chemistry minor.
- This is an excellent program for students who want to go into medicine.
- There was a suggestion to see where the Technology Studies: Biomolecular Option fits into the biotech program.

Physics at SCSU - Dr. Matthew Enjalran, Professor and Chairperson, Department of Physics, SCSU
- The COT articulation with SCSU is for the Engineering Science A.S. to transfer to the Physics with Engineering B.S.
- There are facilities at so students can analyze materials at the Center for Nanotechnology.
- There is also remote access to major telescopes around the world.
- Community college students do have the ability to complete the SCSU degree in three semesters.

COT Program Discussions
- Karen Wosczyna-Birch and Mary Bidwell, Asnuntuck and Tunxis Community Colleges, and the advanced manufacturing program directors will be meeting with the System Office and Regional Presidents in December to discuss the Cot and manufacturing programs.
  - Mark Vesligaj of Three Rivers CC discussed that TRCC will be terminating MAT167 and replacing it with MAT165, which is 4 credits, more robust, and includes MATlab, under Tech Studies. Motion to approve the addition of MAT165 to the Technology Studies curriculum at Three Rivers Community College by Mark Vesligaj, Three Rivers Community College; Motion seconded by: Mobin Rastgar Agah, Norwalk Community College. The motion was unanimously approved with no objections and no abstentions. The course addition was approved.
- University of Bridgeport Articulation – Technology Studies A.S. Degree to Computer Engineering Technology B.S. – Justin Moore of Naugatuck Valley CC and Omar Abuzaghleh of University of Bridgeport have been discussing and articulation agreement. The agreement will now go through the COT so all twelve community colleges will be included. Two computer courses can be used as directed electives.
- Consider making options certificates; however, certificates are flagged for low enrollment.
- For consolidation meetings, standalone Engineering Technology programs do have to participate, but COT programs do not. Any questions regarding COT programs will go to Karen Wosczyna-Birch.

College of Technology – Regional Center for Next Generation Manufacturing – Dr. Karen Wosczyna-Birch, Executive Director, COT-RCNGM
- There is professional development funding available for connecting teaching skills and professional skills.
- There are international grants. There are currently CLICKs projects going on with classroom modules with partners in France. Students will also be able to participate in bootcamps in France that will be funded for the students. Faculty will also be able to participate in bootcamps or meet with CLICKs partners.
- CT Apprenticeship Program for Robotics and Automation (CAPRA) - Next step is to match them with companies. Robotic arms should be delivered very soon to the participating colleges.
- For the AARP Scholarship, contact Wendy Robicheau to assist with the application process. Eight students will receive a $1250 scholarship for participation in a community college manufacturing program.
- The MET^2 Program will begin again with the Winter Intersession. Full program and application details will be emailed for recruiting next week. Applications will be due December 14th. The program is looking to recruit 24 community college students and 6 university students to work on projects that will include a virtual reality component.
- A CT CC will host a STEM Guitar Workshop that is organized by Sinclair Community College and funded by the National Science Foundation. This workshop will be 3-5 days and will be open to community college faculty and high school teachers. Participants will get to keep the guitar they build.
- The annual Epsilon Pi Tau Induction Ceremony will take place on May 1, 2020. Applications will come out at the beginning of next semester. This is currently the 90th anniversary of EPT.

Data Science Undergraduate and Graduate Degrees – Dr. Aaron Clark, Professor and Chairperson, Department of Mathematics, SCSU

- SCSU has a minor and B.S. in Data Science that have been approved by the Board of Regents.
- An Intro to Data Science course started this semester.
- There are currently TAP pathways for Data Science.
- SCSU is also working with Northwestern CT CC and other community colleges to create a COT Technology Studies: Data Science Option Pathway.
- Students graduating from the Data Science program will be in high demand, high paying jobs.

Upcoming COT Meetings
January 24, 2020 – University of CT – Storrs Campus
February 21, 2020 – University of Hartford
March 27, 2020 – Central CT State University
April 17, 2020 – Housatonic CC
May 15, 2020 – Naugatuck Valley CC – Waterbury Campus

Important Dates
January 6-17, 2020 – MET^2 Winter Intersession
May 1, 2020 – Epsilon Pi Tau Induction Ceremony at Manchester CC
July 2020 - Problem Based-Learning in Advanced Photonics Manufacturing Workshop