College of Technology
Site Coordinators Meeting

Date: Friday, October 18, 2019
Hosted by: Sacred Heart University – West Campus
3135 Easton Turnpike, Fairfield, CT 06825
Building: East Building   Room: E-1039

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
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
Sharon Gusky, Professor, Northwestern CT CC
Lin Lin, Program Coordinator, Middlesex CC
Jakob Spjut, Program Coordinator, Quinebaug Valley CC
Mathew Spinelli, STEAM Director, Tunxis Community College
Michael Gentry, Program Coordinator, Three Rivers CC
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
Joyce Hu, Professor & Chair, University of Bridgeport
Kevin Blake, Director, Sacred Heart University
Tolga Kaya, Director of Engineering, Sacred Heart University
Kevin Bowlyn, Assistant Professor, Sacred Heart University

MINUTES

Welcome Remarks – Dr. Martha Crawford, Dean, Jack Welch College of Business & Technology, Sacred Heart University (SHU)

- SHU has a new campus and a new vision.
- Digital innovation is interrupting every discipline so the business was combined with engineering so students are prepared for employment. This is now the School of Computer Science & Engineering.
- There is already business accreditation and SHU will also be applying for ABET accreditation.
- SHU is very serious about getting first generation students through a four-year degree without losing time or money.
- The West Campus will become a hub for entrepreneurship. The board approved creating a Tech Stars incubator. Other institutions will be able to be partners so students can work in I-Hub or the incubator.
- There are parallels with France in Connecticut. In order to scale-up, entrepreneurs have to leave. This needs to change so they can stay in Connecticut. Karen Wosczyna-Birch mentioned that the College of Technology has a community college partnership with France.
- The School of Computer Science & Engineering also has a gaming focus.

Introductions & Updates – All Attendees

COT Program Discussions/Votes

- Program Termination – Plastics Certificate Quinebaug Valley Community College

- o Polymer courses that do not require special equipment will be kept.
  - o Other colleges are welcome to use the curriculum and replicate the program.
  - ACTION ITEM: Motion to approve the discontinuation of the Plastics Certificate at Quinebaug Valley Community College by Jakob Spjut, Quinebaug Valley Community College; Motion seconded by: Sharon Gusky, Northwestern CT Community College. The motion was unanimously approved with no objections and no abstentions. The program discontinuation was approved.

- The UConn Admissions Department is now requiring high school transcripts from students who have completed A.S. degrees. Mark Vesligaj of Three Rivers Community College is talking with UConn about this next week. Karen Wosczyna-Birch reminded attendees that this was not part of the original agreement and that Dan Burkey of UConn is not for requiring high school transcripts.

- College of Technology students are having challenges with transferring Three Rivers Community College's thermodynamics (215, calculus-based) to the University of New Haven (UNH). Mark Vesligaj is working with UNH to resolve this issue.

College of Technology – Regional Center for Next Generation Manufacturing – Dr. Karen Wosczyna-Birch, Executive Director, COT-RCNGM
- Manufacturing Technology Instructor Position – The Faculty Advisory Council had questions on why the Manufacturing Technology instructor Position was being implemented and if it met accreditation criteria so Karen Wosczyna-Birch, Mary Bidwell and Sharon Gusky attend their meeting. Sharon Gusky of Northwestern CT CC said the main concern was people teaching without M.S. degrees. She then read them a job description from Dartmouth for instructors teaching machining where the only requirement was an A.S. degree. Mary Bidwell of Asnuntuck CC mentioned that the group was concerned about the math and it was explained that it is an applied math that is used on the shop floor. The Council was told to direct any further questions to Karen Wosczyna-Birch or Mary Bidwell. There will also be a meeting with human resources to discuss amending the position to fit manufacturing programs' needs.
- Consolidation Committee Meeting – Technology Studies vs. Engineering Technology – Technology Studies representatives did not have to attend the curriculum consolidation meeting. The standalone Engineering Technology program representatives did have to attend. Karen Wosczyna-Birch sent the College of Technology curriculum to Mike Stefanowicz and he and Pat Bouffard agreed that COT curriculum can be discussed separately at a later time to clarify certificates and options. The COT will not be classified as TAP programs and does not have to meet general education requirements. Standalone programs will have to work out their curriculum and titles in their own workgroups. Lin Lin of Middlesex CC mentioned that the consolidation group also wants to look at pre-requisites at the curriculum level.
- Lin Lin of Middlesex CC has a colleague who wats to implement a biotech program. The COT Site Coordinators recommended the biomolecular science option through COT.
- CT Apprenticeship Program for Robotics and Automation (CAPRA) – A webinar was held for students at participating CCs who are interested in signing up. The next step is to match students with companies.
- AARP Scholarship – An application is being drafted and will be distributed.
- NASA Space Grant – 2019 Grants Expo – Nov. 1 from 2-4pm @ New England Air Museum – RSVP required. There are also other events in other states that our students can apply for.
- Problem Based-Learning in Advanced Photonics Manufacturing Workshop – Third week of July 2020
- NEATEC/NIST Internship applications are available for our students on NEATEC's website. NEATEC would also like our faculty to visit their facilities.

Sacred Heart University presentation – Academics - Prof. Tolga Kaya; Transfer Program - Kevin Blake

- The new West Campus is the former GE campus. This was originally the School of Computing, then the School of Computer Science and Engineering and is now the College of Business and Technology. Computer Engineering is in its third year.
- To find out what equipment is available at SHU, Google: Sacred Heart University Engineering – Equipment
- SHU makes sure community college transfer students come in as juniors. If a student has completed 60 credits as a junior, the entire left side of the curriculum map is waived.
- CIT 202 will not be waived.
- The recommended programming language is Python for community colleges.
- SHU brings in approximately 150 transfer students in the fall and 80-90 in the spring.
- There are transfer scholarships and housing available.

Lab tour (AI lab, cybersecurity lab, makerspace)

Upcoming COT Meetings
November 15, 2019 – Southern CT State University
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
  November 1 – CGT Space Grant Consortium Grants Expo – New England Air Museum
July 2020 - Problem Based-Learning in Advanced Photonics Manufacturing Workshop