



College of Technology – Site Coordinators Meeting

Date: Friday, October 2, 2020

Virtual Meeting

ATTENDEES

CT State Colleges & Universities

Karen Wosczyzna-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
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 CC
Joe DeFeo, Director, Naugatuck Valley CC
Lin Lin, Program Coordinator, Middlesex CC
Jakob Spjut, Program Coordinator, Quinebaug Valley CC
Mobin Rastgar Agah, Professor, Norwalk CC
Sharon Gusky, Professor, Northwestern CT CC
Crystal Wiggins, STEM DC, Northwestern CT CC
Mehrdad Faezi, Professor, Manchester CC
Michael Gentry, Program Coordinator, Three Rivers CC
Andre Freeman, Professor, Capital CC
Deirdre D'Amore, STEM Recruitment & Retention, Naugatuck Valley CC
Mathew Spinelli, STEAM Director, Tunxis CC
Asheka Rahman, Program Coordinator, Tunxis CC
Stella Litwinowicz, Assistant Professor, Housatonic CC
Tracy Ariel, Director, Manufacturing, Manchester & Middlesex Community Colleges
Matthew Enjalran, Professor & Chair, Physics, Southern CT State University
Segun Odesina, Associate Dean, Central CT State University
Shuju Wu, Professor & Chair of Department, Computer Electronics & Graphics Technology, Central CT State University
Jemiel Rose, Project Director, CT State Colleges & Universities
Kelli Vallieres, Consultant, CT State Colleges & Universities and Executive Director, CT Workforce Development Unit
Diane Clokey, Registrar, Asnuntuck CC and CSCU Academic & Student Affairs Consolidation Alignment Group
Francine Rosselli-Navarra, Professor & Chair, Psychology, Manchester CC and Interim Associate Vice President of Programs and Curriculum, CSCU
James Lombella, North-West Regional President, CT State Colleges & Universities
Jordan Domkowski, Academic Advisor, STEAM & Advanced Manufacturing, Tunxis Community College
Michael Rooke, President, Northwestern CT CC and Interim Provost of CT State Community College
Michael Stefanowicz, Interim CSCU Associate Vice President for Academic & Student Affairs
Richard Gnall, Professor, Manchester Community College
W. Charles Paulsen, Adjunct Professor, Gateway Community College
Sango Park, Central Connecticut State University

Other College & Universities

Tara Mitchell, Associate director, Transfer Student Admissions, Fairfield University
Laurie Granstrand, Manager of Graduate Programs, College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture, University of Hartford
Marcia Arambulo Rodriguez, Assistant Dean, School of Engineering, Fairfield University
Daniel Burkey, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education and Diversity, School of Engineering, University of Connecticut

High Schools

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

MINUTES

Welcome – Dr. Karen Wosczyzna- Birch, Executive Director, College of Technology-Regional Center for Next Generation Manufacturing (COT-RCNGM)

- Happy Manufacturing Day! Thank you to Michael Rooke, Michael Stefanowicz, and their curriculum alignment team for attending this College of Technology Meeting. Also thank you to President James Lombella for help with integrating manufacturing and technology programs across the system.
- President Lombella thanked everyone for their hard work. He is participating in a Facebook Live with Colin Cooper today for Manufacturing Day.

COT Curriculum Alignment Charge – Dr. Michael Rooke, President, Northwestern CT CC; Interim Provost of CT State CC

- Dr. Rooke introduced his curriculum alignment team: Francine Rosselli-Navarra, Michael Stefanowicz, Diane Clokey, and Sue Barzotinni. The new community college now has a name, Connecticut State Community College. He used to serve on the COT Site Coordinators Council for Manchester Community College and Tunxis Community College. The Board of Regents has mandated alignment of programs to prepare for the consolidation of the community colleges. The curriculum alignment managers will help with this work. The COT programs are already well-aligned. The official charge to align the curriculum has been distributed and the deliverables include preparing program templates and submitting them for review.
- Francine Rosselli-Navarra, Curriculum Alignment Manager, noted that the program and course templates are very simplified curriculum forms. The curriculum alignment team is aware of the COT's general education exemptions. Everything going to the single college needs to go to the BOR for approval, so it needs to be submitted early enough for review and submission for the college catalog. The email with the charge also has three spreadsheets with courses that have been offered at the community colleges over the past five years and they may belong to the COT. The site coordinators should go through the list and see which courses are COT and align them if they are at multiple colleges.
- Sharon Gusky of Northwestern CT Community College and Chair of the COT Curriculum Committee noted that the committee will look at the Engineering Science and Technology Studies alignment for general education and make sure the articulation agreements are not affected. The alignment of options will be done then sent to the entire Site Coordinators Council for approval.
- Mary Bidwell of Tunxis and Asnuntuck Community College and the COT Curriculum Committee noted that the community colleges with manufacturing certificates started looking at aligning curriculum last year. Yesterday they started going through courses that varied at different colleges. There will be some flexibility for local workforce needs but will also have a core curriculum.
- Karen Wosczyzna-Birch noted that the COT core curriculum is reviewed annually. She also asked the curriculum alignment managers if all modifications needed to align the COT curriculum will be presented in one package at the same time to the Board of Regents. Francine Rosselli-Navarra answered that this is a flexible process and items can be moved forward for review and approval as they are completed. Sue Barzotinni will be the contact for alignment and Diane Clokey will be the contact for alignment of the manufacturing certificates. These managers will give curriculum changes to the full committee.
- Jakob Spujt of Quinebaug Valley Community College noted that the required CCS 101 Career Success course could be an issue with transfer as it has been in the past. Using Introduction to Engineering to satisfy this should be explored. Michael Rooke asked if the four-year universities require students to take career or first year experience (FYE) courses. Segun Odesina of Central CT State University answered yes and that FYE could be in general education or a student's field. Daniel Burkey of UConn answered that FYE/career courses are optional and typically waived for students coming in after freshman year. UConn does offer an optional transfer seminar. Usually their FYE is one credit. Tara Mitchel of Fairfield University answered that they do not have a credit-based transfer class requirement for new students but do require a transfer seminar. Classes from other colleges do not transfer directly to something within the curriculum. Laurie Granstrand of University of Hartford answered that if a student has less than 24 credits, they take a 1 credit transfer dialogue course. Students are exempt from this if they transfer in with 24 or more credits.
- Michael Rooke asked about pre-requisites among the same courses offered at different community colleges. Karen Wosczyzna-Birch answered that the COT is addressing this with faculty to make sure they are aligned.

COT Curriculum Discussion - Dr. Karen Wosczyzna Birch, Executive Director, COT-RCNGM

- Send all current COT program links by email to Wendy Robicheau by October 9th. Also send any other overall suggestions and updates for the CT State Colleges & Universities COT webpage. Lin Lin of Middlesex Community College suggested changing “COT” on the main menu tab to “College of Technology.”
- Segun Odesina of Central CT State University (CCSU) noted that there are three community college courses that do not align with CCSU’s Electrical Engineering Technology program.
- Karen Wosczyzna-Birch noted that the COT does have a Technical Education Teacher Pathway that is often forgotten. This should be promoted more as there is a shortage of technical education teachers. Hartford Public High School is having trouble finding these teachers. Michael Gentry of Three Rivers Community College noted the same issue with the New London school system.
- Matthew Enjalran of Southern CT State University noted that they have changed their curriculum so the articulation agreement will need to be reviewed.
- Karen Wosczyzna-Birch noted that the Technical Education Teacher and Engineering Technology pathways should be included in the alignment work.
- Tara Mitchell of Fairfield University noted that Harvey Hoffman will continue to be the COT contact and that a new core curriculum has been introduced there so the articulation agreement will have to be reviewed.

College of Technology – Regional Center for Next Generation Manufacturing - Dr. Karen Wosczyzna Birch, Executive Director, COT-RCNGM

- 180 Skills is another platform for online learning and badges that can lead to certificates. These badges and certificates need to be reviewed for credit at the community colleges. All of the community colleges have the ability to use 180 Skills in their curriculum for free right now. Karen Wosczyzna-Birch and Mary Bidwell will push out another email regarding the program. Stephen LaPointe of Quinebaug Valley Community Colleges noted that he does not see enough work being done with the first five badges to award credit. Kelli Vallieres noted that the credit would be for the dislocated workers to entice them to come to the community colleges to complete a certificate or degree. They are looking into expanding the two initial pathways and even the possibility of a 1 credit elective. Karen Wosczyzna-Birch congratulated Kelli Vallieres on her new role at the Department of Economic & Community Development (DECD) as Executive Director of the Workforce Development Office. Kelli noted that she has worked with most of the group over the years as an industry partner. She was asked to be a co-chair for the Governor’s Workforce Council (GWC) and then the new position at DECD opened up, so she decided to make a career change. She will be sharing the strategic plan with the GWC next week. We will be working together on how we can gather data and track students statewide.
- The COT-RCNGM newsletter will be monthly. The first issue went out in July. Wendy will send reminder emails to submit content. Kelli Vallieres noted that there is also a need for a statewide website with a calendar of activities for all events and initiatives.
- Jakob Spujt of Quinebaug valley Community College suggested the option of seamless cross-enrollment for COT students. It is currently happening for other programs at some community colleges such as Northwestern CT Community College. The money is transferred behind the scenes and therefore the students are not impacted. Karen Wosczyzna-Birch noted that the COT used to do this, and the agreement was among the academic deans. We will go ahead and have discussions to try and get this in place for spring.

Attendee Updates

- Shuju Wu of Central CT State University announced that the Electrical Engineering B.S. degree program has begun, and she would like to do an articulation agreement for this program.
- Mathew Spinelli of Tunxis Community College noted that a proposed partnership with Hartford Public High School is the different pre-requisites at each community college.

Upcoming COT Site Coordinator Meetings

November 13, 2020

December 11, 2020

January 29, 2021

February 19, 2021

March 12, 2021

April 9, 2021

May 14, 2021