

College of Technology – Site Coordinators Meeting

Date: Friday, October 8, 2021

Time: 9:00AM

Virtual Meeting



MINUTES

Welcome Remarks - Dr. Karen Wosczyzna- Birch, Executive Director, College of Technology-National Center for Next Generation Manufacturing (COT-NCNGM)

- Welcome to today's COT Meeting. The agenda is packed with a lot of information today. We also want to make sure everyone has time to provide their input during the meeting.

Attendee Introductions

- All attendees briefly introduced themselves.

Digital Generalist Pathway – Candace Williams, Director of Policy Research & Strategic Initiatives, New England Board of Higher Education

- Meetings will be starting again to discuss how to fill gaps in the KSAs identified by industry for the Digital Generalist Pathway and the community college curriculum. There is an opportunity for a faculty grant for those who help with this project. The grant is \$1500 per person. Four digital badges towards a microcredential will be created at this time. Let Candace know if you or any colleagues are interested in participating.

CT Manufacturing Month Update – Alyce Stiles, Associate Director, Experiential STEM Education, CT Center for Advanced Technology

- Happy Manufacturing Month! There is a lot of collaboration across the state for manufacturing initiatives. CCAT is working with Colin Cooper and the Governor's Office. CCAT has also been leading Connecticut's Dream It Do It campaign, which has been sunsetted and rebranded as Creators Wanted nationally. The Governor has proclaimed October Manufacturing Month. Ways you can participate in Creators Wanted are to host an event, submit a video, and engage and refer.
- The manufaCTure4.0 website is where the Connecticut manufacturing resources and event information are kept. You can list activities and videos to invite rising young professionals into manufacturing.
- CTcreates.org is continuously updated with resources.
- There are ambassadors available at CCAT that can introduce students to manufacturing careers.
- The Women of Innovation Awards are this week.
- There is a focus on recruiting non-traditional students for manufacturing.
- There is a virtual CT MFG Month Summit for Educators on October 27th from 4:00-5:00pm.
- The Association for Aerospace Manufacturers (ACM) is hosting their Future Workforce Opportunities expo on November 10th at the Connecticut Convention Center.
- Ren Sharma of Naugatuck Valley Community College asked if there is a virtual tour of CCAT. Alyce responded that there is. A virtual tour can be scheduled for an upcoming COT Meeting.

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

- Items for the Tech Times Newsletter can be submitted to Wendy Robicheau at wrobicheau@commnet.edu. This includes and stories or events.
- EASTEC – October 19-21 – West Springfield, MA – Let Karen or Wendy know if you need any help getting students to EASTEC.
- CBIA Manufacturing Summit – October 29th – Trumbull Marriott – This summit is held annually. We will have a table for the expo part also so you can end Wendy any materials you would like to have on the table.
- Updates on initiatives with Office of Workforce Strategies (OWS)
 - There are many initiatives going on with the Office of Workforce Strategies and Governor's Workforce Council (GWC). There is also a manufacturing strategic plan for the community colleges systemwide. Kellie Vallieres is a part of the conversation for the plan.
 - Mary Bidwell of Asnuntuck and Tunxis Community Colleges noted that the GWC met yesterday and she will get the minutes or recording for distribution.

- Rich DuPont of the North-West Region noted that manufacturing is one of the focuses of the Sector Strategy Partnerships. Three or four of the regional workforce boards are addressing manufacturing. It is important to pay attention to what is going on in your region so you can be aware of funding opportunities.
- Manufacturing Innovation Fund
 - Mary Bidwell noted that she sits on the board as a non-voting member. \$750 million was approved for the Hearts and Minds Campaign to change the hearts and minds of young people and parents regarding manufacturing. There is also a pot of money to do a website on resources for manufacturers and money for apprenticeships.
 - Rich DuPont noted that there is money committed for a 2–3-year manufacturing marketing campaign. Karen Wosczyzna-Birch noted that the funds from the National Science Foundation cannot be used for marketing, so it is good that there are other funds available from the state.
- Collaboration with Regional Workforce Development Officers
 - We are working with the Regional Workforce Development Officers to collaborate from both credit and non-credit sides. We are trying to schedule more regular meetings. Make sure to reach out to your Regional Workforce Development Officer to let them know what you are doing with the COT.
- System Initiatives for IT certifications that are turnkey curriculum.
 - Amazon is non-credit at this time, but it will be built into microcredential and stackable credential models. Instructors must become certified trainers. There are about ten credit and non-credit faculty in the system who are certified to teach these Amazon certificates. It is really being implemented now on the non-credit side with the Regional Workforce Development Officers.
 - Google has over 150 certifications and all courses are on Coursera right now. We are trying to see if we can use them with Blackboard. This became with David Ferriera, Academic Dean at Northwestern CT Community College at the time. Crystal designed one course for this and it for six credits. The original contract said we would only have access to one certification for one year, but it was negotiated to have access to all certifications for free for three years. Universities in the system will have access to 500 licenses and the community colleges will have unlimited licenses. No certification is needed to teach these. Crystal Wiggins of Northwestern CT Community College is working on this, and she is waiting to find out if we can use QuickLabs in Blackboard. She will bring this through the community colleges' computer science faculty and is hoping to integrate in a program that will meet credit requirements for financial aid. Crystal invited anyone other faculty to help her with this project. Mobin Rastah Agar of Norwalk Community College will connect Norwalk CC's computer science faculty to this initiative. Lin Lin of Middlesex Community College noted she would get her computer science faculty involved as well since this will be a big thing when it becomes credit. Crystal noted that she will bring it to the computer science faculty systemwide to see if anything has to be redesigned. Karen Wosczyzna-Birch has examples of how other colleges have implemented these certifications.
 - Mathew Spinelli of Tunxis Community College noted that it might be beneficial to look into doing this with Microsoft certifications as well since these would be widely applicable.
- Legislation on aeronautical engineering in Connecticut
 - Mathew Spinelli of Tunxis Community College noted that he and Brenden Mascarenhas are excited about this and are looking into pursuing a program for aeronautical engineering. They are beginning a conversation on how this can be done. There is an airport near Tunxis CC as well as Kaman. Ren Sharma of Naugatuck Valley Community College noted that they had an aviation science program that was recently terminated because it was expensive and there were liability issues. Laurie Grandstrand of University of Hartford noted that they have just approved a B.S. degree in aerospace engineering and suggested contacting Paul Slaboch (slabock@hartford.edu) who is in charge of the program.
- NASA Connecticut Space Grant Consortium
 - Quadcopter Challenge – Jakob Spjut of Quinebaug Valley Community College has been working on revising the program. The Quadcopter Challenge will take place in the spring and applications will be coming out soon. Karen Wosczyzna-Birch noted that every state has a Space Grant Consortium from NASA. This sponsors research, activities, and scholarships. The deadline for applications for the general grants is October 15th.

- National Center for Next Generation Manufacturing (NCNGM)
 - The NCNGM is holding a Diversity in Manufacturing Workshop and more details will be provided.
 - The ASEE Industry 4.0 Summit has been moved to April 25 – 26, 2022 and will be held in Washington, D.C. The NCNGM can provide funding to attend this summit.
- NSF ATE PI Conference
 - There are a limited number of registrations available through the NCNGM. Contact Wendy Robicheau to register.
 - Six students from our community colleges were selected to fill 60 national spots in the conference's student/alumni poster session.

College of Technology and Connecticut State Community College Updates – Dr. Karen Wosczyzna-Birch, COT-RCNGM and Sharon Gusky, Professor, Northwestern CT Community College & Chair, COT Curriculum Committee

- All documentation due to APRC by 11/5 for APRC Meeting on 11/19 for review
- VOTES
 - Motion to add EGR 299 and DTS 203 to the list of approved courses by Mobin Rastah Agar of Norwalk Community College; motion seconded by Rich DuPont of the North-West Region community colleges. The motion was unanimously passed with one abstention.
 - Motion to accept the Technology Studies core curriculum and all but the Energy Management and Engineering & Technology Education Options, which will be tabled for a virtual vote by Mike Gentry of Three River Community College; motion seconded by Mobin Rastah Agar of Norwalk Community College. Discussion – Stella Litwinowicz of Housatonic Community College suggested adding PHY 222 where options require PHY 221 which was agreed to. Sharon Gusky reviewed each option and Mary Bidwell reviewed the manufacturing options. The motion passed unanimously.
 - Motion to accept the Technology Studies certificates with the CAD certificate tabled for a virtual vote by Mehrdad Faezi of Manchester Community College; motion seconded by Mary Bidwell of Asnuntuck and Tunxis Community Colleges. The motion passed unanimously.

Upcoming COT Meetings

Friday, November 12th, 2021

Friday, December 10th, 2021

Friday, February 11th, 2022

Friday, March 11th, 2022

Friday, April 8th, 2022

Friday, May 13th, 2022

Other Important Dates

October 18th-22nd – NSF ATE PI Conference - Virtual

October 19th – 21st – EASTEC – West Springfield, CT

October 29th – CBIA Manufacturing Summit – Trumbull, CT

April 25th – 26th, 2022 – ASEE Industry 4.0 Summit – Washington, DC