

College of Technology – Site Coordinators Meeting

Date: Thursday, November 16, 2023 Time: 3:00 PM

Location: Virtual

ATTENDEES

CT State Colleges & Universities

Karen Wosczyzna-Birch, Executive Director, College of Technology – National Center for Next Generation Manufacturing
Wendy Robicheau, Assistant Director – National Center for Next Generation Manufacturing
Sue Spencer, Program Coordinator, CT State - Gateway
Jakob Spjut, Professor, CT State - Quinebaug Valley
Sharon Gusky, Professor, CT State - Northwestern
Stella Litwinowicz, Professor, CT State - Housatonic
Lin Lin, Program Coordinator, Middlesex CC
Crystal Wiggins, Program Coordinator, CT State – Northwestern
Eric Flynn, Program Coordinator, CT State – Gateway
Mia Samsel, Department Chair, CT State – Gateway
John Jagtiani, Professor, CT State - Northwestern
Mehrddad Faezi, Professor, CT State – Manchester
Richard Gnall, Professor, CT State - Manchester
Mobin Rastgar Agah, Professor, CT State - Norwalk
Mary Bidwell, Dean of Advanced Manufacturing, CT State - Asnuntuck & Tunxis
Mathew Spinelli, Director, Advanced Manufacturing Technology Center, CT State - Manchester
H. Justin Moore, Dean, School of Engineering & Technology, CT State
Keith Carter, Director, Advanced Manufacturing Technology Center, CT State - Middlesex
Kristen Dagan, Department Chair, Engineering & Technology, CT State – Naugatuck Valley
Matthew Enjalran, Professor & Chair, Physics, Southern CT State University
Ravindra Thamma, Associate Dean and Professor, Central CT State University
Rich DuPont, Director of Community & Campus Relations, Advanced Manufacturing Center, CT State - Housatonic

Other College & Universities

Harvey Hoffman, Associate Dean, School of Engineering, Fairfield University

Other

John Birch, Executive Director, MET² Program
Larry Pomerleau, Associate Education Consultant, CT Technical Education & Career System
Natalie Forbes, Director of Grants & Innovation, Middletown Public Schools

MINUTES

- **Welcome Remarks - Dr. Karen Wosczyzna-Birch, Executive Director, College of Technology & Executive Director & PI, National Center for Next Generation Manufacturing**
- **Attendee Introductions - ALL**
- **MET² Program Recruitment – John Birch, Executive Director, MET² Program and Eric Flynn, Faculty Technical Lead, MET² & Professor, CT State – Gateway**
 - John Birch noted the program is looking for 12-16 students interested in going beyond what they learn in their programs to learn additional professional and technical skills. The next Winter Intersession program begins Tuesday, January 2 through Friday, January 12 and possibly January 16th if that day is needed to wrap things up. Professional skills include teamwork, leadership, human behavior, emotional intelligence, networking skills, strategic and project planning, how to deal with difficult people, conflict resolution, and time management. Most of the students have jobs before they graduate and automatically go into team leader positions. This is the 17th year of the award-winning program. Students work on industry-driven projects, some of which have been space suit modifications and medical devices for premature infants. Students receive stipends for their participation in the Winter Intersession and then for their work on their projects during the spring semester up to 100 hours. Students may have the opportunity to travel to conferences next summer and fall. Recruitment for the program focuses on women and veterans.

- Eric Flynn noted students come out of the program being able to present themselves in a very professional manner. The technical skills include blueprint reading, CAD, 3D printing, CAM, and CNC machining, and electrical. Almost 98% of community colleges transfer to four-year programs. There are going to be great industry projects this year. The application can be found at www.met2program.org.
- Karen Wosczyzna-Birch added that the student teams will be presenting their projects at the last COT Meeting of the spring semester. She also thanked John, Eric, and Mehrdad Faezi for their work on the MET2 Program.
- **COT and NCNGM Upcoming Initiatives, Activities, and Important Dates - Dr. Karen Wosczyzna-Birch**
 - [SMART Scholarship-for-Service Program](#)
 - We received this announcement from Eileen Candels at the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology. This is a Department of Defense scholarship. The application deadline is December 1st. Share this opportunity with your students. Talking to students one-on-one about these opportunities helps push them to apply.
 - NSF ATE PI Conference
 - Highlight of our National Science Foundation funding. Karen congratulated the five students from Connecticut who received the NSF ATE Student/Alumni Award during the conference. Students do a poster session, a networking session with business and industry representatives and take a tour of the Air and Space Museum. The National Center for Next Generation Manufacturing also did a presentation on advanced manufacturing programs and NSF Advanced Technological Education grants. Karen also thanked Wendy Robicheau for her help with the students.
 - Quantum Grant
 - This is a grant funded by the National Science Foundation to create “engines” focused on different areas. Last year 42 states, including CT, receiving planning grants of about \$1M. They will award 3-5 of the full grants of \$165M for 10 years this year. CT is planning on submitting a full proposal in 2025 with Yale and Uconn as the leads and industry and additional educational institutions including CT State Colleges & Universities as partners. The partners have been meeting once a month to discuss the proposal. CT has chosen to focus on Quantum.
 - AARP Manufacturing Scholarships
 - Contact Wendy Robicheau at wrobicheau@txcc.commnet.edu if you have students that meet the following requirements: enrolled in a community college advanced manufacturing program, age 50+, and willing to share success story with COT, NCNGM, and AARP. The funds are provided by AARP-CT and is held at the Tunxis Foundation so contact Wendy to work with your local foundation to award the scholarship to your student.
 - Xometry Scholarships
 - Contact Marisa Rubera at mrubera@ccc.commnet.edu at CT State – Capital for more information. This partnership was brought to the COT by CCAT. Marisa has already sent out information on receiving funds for the 2023 fall semester. Contact Marisa if you have not been involved yet but are interested.
 - Share newsletter stories with Wendy Robicheau at wrobicheau@txcc.commnet.edu. This can be anything related to students, faculty, events, and awards that can be shared statewide and nationwide.
 - [Journal of Advanced Technological Education](#)
 - Karen is on the Editorial Board. Articles can be very brief. It is hard to find peer-reviewed journals focused on technological education. These would be publications that can go in tenure and promotion applications.
 - Upcoming Events & Conferences:
 - [WIM CT Chapter Holiday Celebration](#) – 12/7/2023 – Mark Twain House, Hartford
 - [ACTE CareerTech Vision](#) – 11/29-12/2/2023 – Phoenix, AZ
 - [AACC WDI](#) – 1/23 – 1/26/2023 – New Orleans, LA

CT State Community College – School of Engineering & Technology Updates and Curriculum Proposals – H. Justin Moore, Dean, School of Engineering & Technology, CT State Community College

- CT State School of Engineering & Technology Updates
 - Natalie Forbes and Paul Pellitier are from Middletown High School and have students working on a power washing drone. They are trying to teach students how to develop and market products. They are interested in a for-credit drone program and how that could transfer to CT State.
 - Dean Jimmy Adams and Justin are developing the application for Perkins for CT State. If you have not already, reach out with your request ASAP. CT State will receive approximately \$2M.
 - CT State Naugatuck Valley is holding their annual STEM & Manufacturing Expo tomorrow. There are approximately 15-20 high school and middle schools attending and 30 companies talking about manufacturing careers.

- Engineering Science A.S. Degree – Sequence of Specialization Courses
 - Under the Engineering Science A.S. degree there are 6-8 specialization electives, which have been specified in the curriculum. In DegreeWorks students are not being allowed to take two courses out of sequence or in different disciplines. The workaround is course substitutions; however, it should be fixed in DegreeWorks for all campuses. Justin will make sure this is updated. Mehrdad Faezi of CT State – Manchester noted that GPAs at all campuses should be made aware of this also.
 - Matthew Enjalran of Southern CT State University requested a syllabus for certain courses to see how they can transfer. Matthew will email Justin with a list of courses.
- Harvey Hoffman of Fairfield University inquired about who to contact to set up a new articulation agreement. Wendy Robicheau responded that she had emailed him this information and will email him again. Articulations agreements for College of Technology programs will still begin with Karen and Wendy. Justin added that a new CT State articulation agreement template just came out. Justin is the contact for programs outside of the COT.
- Course Modification: EGR1110 Intro to Engineering
 - Technically all students coming into CT State are college English and college math ready, so it was proposed to remove the prerequisites of ENG1010 and MAT1010 so if a student is ready so they can go right into precalculus.
- Sue Spencer of CT State - Gateway is proposing to add the linear algebra course to the list of electives in Engineering Science for students who want to go into the computer science and computer engineering side.
- Jakob Spjut of CT State - Quinebaug Valley also noted that MFG1010, which is cross listed with CAD 2200, needs to be added to the Engineering Science elective list in DegreeWorks.

Attendee Updates

- Mathew Spinelli of CT State – Manchester reported that the campus received the largest Haas scholarship award and that the campus is currently enrolling for their January cohort on advanced manufacturing.

Important Dates

[WIM CT Chapter Holiday Celebration](#) – 12/7/2023 – Mark Twain House, Hartford

[ACTE CareerTech Vision](#) – 11/29-12/2/2023 – Phoenix, AZ

[AACC WDI](#) – 1/23 – 1/26/2023 – New Orleans, LA

Upcoming COT Meetings

Thursday, December 21, 9:00am – 12:00pm – In-Person @ Central CT State University