

College of Technology – Site Coordinators Meeting

Date: Friday, December 10, 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 the December meeting for College of Technology Site Coordinators Council.

Attendee Introductions – All attendees

Digital Generalist Pathway – Charlotte Peyser, Associate Director of Policy & Research, New England Board of Higher Education

- Charlotte Peyser passed the report out to Crystal Wiggins of Northwestern CT Community College. Crystal and Andre Freeman of Capital Community College have been working with the New England Board of Higher Education and the Business - Higher Education Forum along with industry partners on these knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs) that the industry partners have identified as need in their companies. Andre and Crystal were tasked with mapping these into curriculum to find a way to package them and deliver them in the best way possible in the way that made sense. Proposing the Foundations in Digital Analytics Certificate to provide students, current workers, and potential workers with the skills in the digital field regarding probability and statistics, data journalism, data ethics and security, and data analytics to enable them to contribute to their company in different ways. There are 4 courses for this certificate to enable it to be a certificate and the credential that individuals can earn in a short period of time with courses that focus on the KSAs. The certificate will be offered in an accelerated format where students would take 2 courses at the same time so they're able to complete the 12 credits either in consecutive semesters or potentially in 1 semester if the courses are offered an 8- week format. The certificate is mapped well to 2 to 3 existing courses. To address the data ethics and security, a new course is being developed. Students who complete these courses will have the digital and analytics skills to contribute in the workforce. We will ensure that when students take the courses for the certificate that they're really studying statistics from the perspective of analyzing data through the lens of statistics. One of the ways we seek to accomplish that is to create a set of activities, projects, and case studies that students in this certificate would complete so we have common learning experiences for all of the students who complete the certificate. The 4 courses that are identified here correspond to the 4 main areas of data analytics, data manipulation, data visualization and data ethics and security. Digital badging will also be developed for this program. Activities and case studies will be shared with industry to be validated. Lin Lin from Middlesex CC asked if other campuses will be able to offer this certificate. Karen Wosczyzna-Birch responded that yes, this will be able to go through the COT Replication process as long as it follows the exact same curriculum. Some of these courses would count toward the Data Science Certificate and all would count towards the Technology Studies: Data Science A.S. Degree Option. Students in business and computer science programs are already taking a couple of these courses and could have the flexibility to take a couple more to earn this additional credential. Students would be able to count a previous statistics course towards the certificate. Activities and case studies will be built into the other courses as well. Frank Avery from the Business-Higher Education Forum noted that would complement a wide array of entry level positions and is designed to support interdisciplinary opportunities such as marketing analysis to frontline workers at advanced manufacturing facilities. Current industry partners are Stanley Black and Decker, Accenture, and Pitney Bowes.
- Wendy will set up a Teams folder with all COT-related forms and documents, including approved APRC documents.
- We are also trying to hire positions for the National Center for Next Generation Manufacturing.
- We will make a Teams folder to collect feedback on the College of Technology webpage on the Connecticut State Colleges & Universities website.

- We will also start looking at degrees outside of COT that are similar to COT degrees and how to develop a strategic framework for that. Maybe set aside a day to just work on this.

COT Curriculum Discussions & Votes

- VOTE: Foundations in Digital Analytics Certificate (Below Threshold)
 - Motion to approve the Foundations in Digital Analytics Certificate made by Jakob Spjut of Quinebaug Valley Community College; motion seconded by Sharon Gusky of Northwestern CT Community College. No further discussion; motion was unanimously approved; no objections; and no abstentions.
- Data Science Articulation Agreement with Eastern CT State University
 - Beth Allen of Three Rivers Community College introduced the articulation agreement for the Technology Studies: Data Science Option with Eastern CT State University. The agreement will allow Eastern to accept physics as one of their requirements/gen ed course. MAT 165 and 167 will be allowed to be taken at the community colleges. Sharon Gusky, Chair of the COT Curriculum Committee, noted that this does have to be approved by the COT before being signed.
 - Motion to approve the proposed Data Science articulation agreement between the College of Technology and Eastern CT State University pending having MAT 165 OR MAT 167 and list DTS 201 instead of DTS 203 by Andre Freeman of Capital Community College; motion seconded by Crystal Wiggins of Northwestern CT Community College. No further discussion; motion was unanimously approved; no objections; and no abstentions.

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

- APRC Update – Sharon Gusky, Chair of COT Curriculum Committee, noted that after a lengthy Aligned Program Review Committee (APRC) Meeting, Technology Studies and all Technology Studies Options that were presented passed and there were a few changes including DTS 203 and one of the BIO courses needs to be removed from the Biomolecular pathway. The manufacturing programs were approved during a second meeting. We can make modifications through the spring. Karen thanked all those who worked on this. Next steps are determining course numbers. These will be four-digit numbers with the first number being the level, second number being the subdiscipline, and the last two being random.
- Tech Times Newsletter – Submit news items, photos, and events to Wendy Robicheau at wrobicheau@commnet.edu
- Epsilon Pi Tau – Right now we still have COVID limitations so we are considering a hybrid ceremony. Thanks to Mehrdad Faezi of Manchester Community College for helping to reserve the auditorium. Please start recruiting students. We are also looking for faculty and honorary inductees.
 - Induction Ceremony – April 29, 2022
 - Warner Awards – Applications due January 17, 2022 – This would be a \$500 award. You do have to be an active member, but if you are not you can get up to date on your dues and apply. Applications can be found on the EPT website.
- Karen Wosczyzna-Birch presented to a task force that the state legislature created on Industry 4.0 and will be doing one for the Connecticut Manufacturers Collaborative.
- [France Bootcamps](#) – Application Deadline: February 15, 2022 – These are organized by the French Embassy and are being planned as in-person this year for two full weeks. The Embassy covers \$1400 in tuition and all other arrangements. Students are responsible for the remaining \$1000 tuition and their flight, which can be covered through grant funding. Upon the student's completion of a program, individual colleges can decide to give credit or a special project to the student. We will also be looking at arranging our own bootcamp in 2023. Sharon Gusky of Northwestern CT Community College has had students attend these bootcamps and also had two students receive the highly-competitive Gilman Scholarship.
- American Manufacturing Hall of Fame (AMHoF) Inductee Nominations – The AMHoF began at Housatonic Community College and recently moved under the College of Technology to provide a statewide presence. The Induction Ceremony will be held in October 2022. Inductees will be chosen through the community colleges.
- AARP Manufacturing Scholarships are available again for students age 50+ in manufacturing programs at our community colleges. Contact Wendy Robicheau to apply. This is in partnership with the COT and AMHoF.

- MET2 Applications Due December 10, 2021 – Eric Flynn of Gateway Community College noted this is the last day for applications. This opportunity has a history of leading to other opportunities for students such as attending conferences, awards, and job opportunities. The program begins with a two-week workshop in January and then a research project throughout the semester. Students do get paid a stipend.
- The GE CoCREATE Center is in Stamford and is providing paid internship opportunities for our students. Currently students are from the three Shoreline community colleges due to location. Nine students applied and are awaiting acceptance decisions. There are discussions of how to provide housing for future cohorts to allow participation from additional community colleges.
- CT State Manufacturing Strategic Plan – Mary Bidwell reported that the plan went before the Connecticut Manufacturers Collaborative and President Jim Lombella did a high-level presentation on it and asked for any feedback within a week. We also want to make sure that data other than just completions is considered since some students are employed before they complete and come back later to continue their education.
- Updates on initiatives with Office of Workforce Strategies – Rich Dupont reported that we continue to work with the Office of Workforce Strategies and Regional Sector Partnerships. There is new funding through CareerConneCT, which is \$62M the Office of Workforce Strategies. More information on the application process will be coming out soon. Mary Bidwell noted that everyone should be connecting with their Regional Sector Partnership.
- Manufacturing Innovation Fund (MIF)– Mary Bidwell noted that College Connections is currently funded through MIF and we are waiting to see how to put a proposal in for more funding to expand to other schools. Money has also been budgeted for the Hearts and Minds manufacturing marketing campaign, specifically for our community college advanced manufacturing programs. This will include a website.
- Collaboration with Regional Workforce Development Officers – We are working with them on a lot of non-credit initiatives and some conversations in credits initiatives too. We try to meet monthly to make sure we are not duplicating efforts.
- National Center for Next Generation Manufacturing – Karen meets weekly with Center Directors from the Other NSF National Centers.
 - Diversity in Manufacturing Workshop – This one will be pushed out nationally when the date is set.
 - [ASEE Industry 4.0 Summit](#) – April 25-26, 2022 – Washington, DC – This was rescheduled from October. More details will be shared as they become available.
- CCAT Updates
 - Hosting COT Meeting on February 11, 2022 but will be hybrid. Attendees for in-person or virtual will need to register. In-person will include a tour.
 - Additive Manufacturing Forum – Date will be coming out soon. This will also be in-person or virtual.
 - Tour and demonstrations are available for educators, students, and industry.

Credentialing Initiatives - Dr. Karen Wosczyzna- Birch, Executive Director, COT-NCNGM

- Google and Amazon agreements are signed.
- Intel – We have not signed an agreement yet, but it is in process. We are looking to develop AI curriculum. Last year 18 community colleges in the US participated in the Intel AI for Workforce Program.
- CT-SHIP Grant– A Digital Literacy Assessment is something we will be working on as part of the deliverables under COT for this grant.
- Microcredentials and digital badges are being discussed by task force with representatives from throughout the system.

Additional Items

- Let Karen know if there are any other initiatives COT should be involved in.
- Joe DiNatale of the Connecticut Technical & Career Education System attended a round table for the CT Manufacturers Collaborative and was asked what he would ask legislation for. He responded equipment. They also need qualified teachers. Also 15 of the tech high schools offer manufacturing, so we should revisit the articulation between the tech high schools and COT.

Upcoming COT Meetings

Friday, February 11th, 2022 - CCAT

Friday, March 11th, 2022 - Virtual

Friday, April 8th, 2022 - Virtual

Friday, May 13th, 2022 - Virtual

Other Important Dates

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

April 29th, 2022 – Epsilon Pi Tau Gamma Phi Chapter Induction Ceremony

COT Site Coordinators Meeting Attendance - December 10, 2021

Name	Organization
CT State Colleges & Universities	
Karen Wosczyzna-Birch	College of Technology - National Center for Next Generation Manufacturing
Wendy Robicheau	College of Technology - National Center for Next Generation Manufacturing
Rich DuPont	North-West Region
Mary Bidwell	Asnuntuck & Tunxis Community Colleges
Eric Flynn	Gateway CC
Susan Spencer	Gateway CC
Mehrdad Faezi	Manchester CC
Richard Gnall	Manchester CC
Tracy Ariel	Manchester & Middlesex CCs
Lin Lin	Middlesex CC
Andre Freeman	Capital CC
Joe DeFeo	Naugatuck Valley CC
Deirdre D'Amore	Naugatuck Valley CC
Narendra Sharma	Naugatuck Valley CC
Sharon Gusky	Northwestern CT CC
Crystal Wiggins	Northwestern CT CC
Dr. John (Lalit) Jagtiani	Northwestern CT CC
Mobin Rastgar Agah	Norwalk CC
Jakob Spjut	Quinebaug Valley CC
Jodi Clark	Quinebaug Valley CC
Stephen LaPointe	Quinebaug Valley CC
Elizabeth Allen	Three Rivers CC
Brendan Mascarenhas	Tunxis CC
Mathew Spinelli	Tunxis CC
Ravindra Thamma	Central CT State University
Matthew Enjalran	Southern CT State University
Lesley Mara	CT State Colleges & Universities
Other Institutions	
Joseph DiNatale	CT Technical Education & Career System
Stephanie Gillespie	University of New Haven
Laurie Granstrand	University of Hartford
Other Organizations	
Frank Avery	Business-Higher Education Forum
Charlotte Peyser	New England Board of Higher Education