

College of Technology – Site Coordinators Meeting

Date: Friday, March 25, 2022 Time: 9:00AM

Virtual Meeting



MINUTES

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

- We will not be voting on separating College of Technology Options into separate programs today, it will be for discussion only.

Attendee Introductions – All attendees

COT Curriculum Discussions & Votes

- Discussion: Remaining COT Course Descriptors and Numbers
 - QUA 114 – Principles of Quality Control becomes MFG 1014
 - This should be put forward as an MFG course.
 - CTC 106 – Blueprint Reading for Construction
 - This should remain CTC and be put through by the CTC/Architecture Group. Mobin Rastgar Agah of Norwalk Community College will ask the CTC group if they are already putting this course through.
- Discussion & Vote: Technology Studies – Artificial Intelligence A.S. Degree Option & Certificate (Capital CC as lead)
 - Andre Freeman of Capital Community College provided an overview of the AI Option and certificate, noting that the machine learning course already exists.
 - Motion to approve the Technology Studies: AI Option and AI Certificate made by Sharon Gusky of Northwestern CT Community College and seconded by Mehrdad Faezi of Manchester Community College. Motion amended to approve Applied Calculus or Calculus I for the curriculum.
 - Discussion: Alaa Sheta of Southern CT State University suggested adding MATLAB and a general programming languages course that covers several languages. Mathew Spinelli of Tunxis Community College noted that Tunxis CC does not have applied calculus. Is applied calculus enough to move into higher calculus or linear algebra later on? Andre responded that it would not be enough and would require a conversation with students about their overall goals. A student could take Calculus I instead.
 - Karen noted we are working on the legal contract with Intel for their AI program, which is the basis for this curriculum.
 - Motion passed unanimously; no objections, no abstentions.
- Discussion: Proposed articulation agreements
 - Sharon Gusky of Northwestern CT Community College noted that she is working with University of St. Joseph to combine Data Science and Biomolecular for an articulation agreement. She will also reach out to University of New Haven and University of Hartford's biology department to discuss similar agreements.
- APRC voting and feedback at individual colleges was received yesterday. There was nothing major included and the APRC already responded to a lot of the feedback. Karen Wosczyzna-Birch, Wendy Robicheau, Sharon Gusky, and Mary Bidwell will work on the responses and reach out if needed. New curriculum can be added to the last two APRC meetings. Lin Lin of Middlesex Community College noted that when Technology Studies was presented for local college endorsement, faculty were concerned with the definition of options being more than 15 credits. Karen and Sharon noted that this was discussed and resolved during the APRC meeting and the options were approved. Mehrdad Faezi of Manchester Community College would like to make sure the one-course CMM certificate is put through APRC.

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

- CT CLICKs – We had a visit from two faculty from IUT de Cachan in France to discuss continuing partnerships in CT CLICKs and developing a bootcamp for Summer 2023. They visited Asnuntuck CC, Tunxis CC, Gateway CC, and Houatonic CC.
- Three students applied for the French Embassy Bootcamps and we are waiting for decisions.
- ATE Filming – Karen was selected to be featured as the PI video profile in collaboration with the release of the new ATE Impacts book, which will be released at HI TEC. Paul Lavoie, Chief Manufacturing Officer for

Connecticut, was also filmed at Carey Manufacturing. We will have access to the footage to use in our own videos.

- Tracy Ariel is leaving our system and will be in charge of CareerConneCT for the Office of Workforce Strategies.
- Manufacturing Innovation Fund (MIF) – Mary Bidwell reported that she is trying to get continuation of the College Connections funding through MIF with access for all of the Advanced Manufacturing Technology Centers. She also noted that for the CareerConneCT funding we have an ask for what can credit/non-credit do? Also, are they looking to follow the Quinebaug Valley Community College model and what is business asking for? We should have an answer in May. Rich Dupont added that he is working with various school systems to get more schools involved.
- We are having regular meetings with Regional Workforce Development Officers. They are involved with credit offerings that address workforce too and this will develop more under the one college model so we want to be sure to be in communication with them.
- Tech Times Newsletter – submit news items to Wendy Robicheau (wrobicheau@commnet.edu)
- The Connecticut State Community College website is being developed and we are looking for feedback on how the COT webpage should be set up. We will collect feedback in Teams and invite AnnMarie Harrison, Director of Communications, to a future COT Meeting.
- Few are forming IT Credentials Subcommittee for Google, Amazon, Intel, and CT-SHIP – Digital Literacy Assessment. Saaid Elhadad of Capital Community College has agreed to Chair the Subcommittee, which will be organized through Teams.

Amy Feest, Associate Vice President of Programs and Curriculum, Connecticut State Community College – COT & Legacy Programs in Connecticut State Community College

- This is just to think about if we want to make changes because now would be the time. When you put all the options together, some people end up not working within their own discipline. This is also the time for all engineering and technology programs to come under COT, even if they have not been under COT before.
- Sharon Guskys noted that we are still not sure what the COT looks like under one college. Karen noted that we also have to consider that universities are also part of COT. Rich Dupont noted that this is an opportunity for COT to stand out for the technical side of training tied to academics. Alaa Sheta agreed with the presented distribution of COT programs and noted that the terms technology and computer can be very general. Amy is envisioning the Academic Deans that are hired will work with faculty to make sure program distribution and names make sense. We can create an internal pipeline within our colleges and within our state with COT, we just have to figure out how to do it on paper and in reality. Karen noted that we have a crosswalk for manufacturing that shows NIMS credentials through a B.S. degree in our system. Karen also noted we have a general engineering degree, which is Engineering Science that is articulated to universities. Sharon noted that the role of COT is critical as it currently evaluates and recommends new curriculum and is involved in the articulation of those. The greatest strength is that with our systemwide group we can respond to industry needs quickly. The issue with breaking up COT into disciplines is that you then break up the cohesiveness of the Site Coordinators Council. Amy noted that we would need to address programs that look like a COT program,

but are not right now. Mary Bidwell commented that there is a push for short-term programs in manufacturing, so we are trying to align to that too. Andre Freeman noted that we have to make sure program names make sense for students. Amy noted that we should cross list programs too. Karen noted we used to cross list programs. Mehrdad Faezi noted that there are two groups of students, the ones who go onto university and the ones that are workforce and also that once APRC is gone, COT serves as the conduit between transfer partners. Amy noted the remaining question is if options can be separated in disciplines other than where the parent degree sits.

- Amy will come to the next meeting for further discussion.
- Sharon suggested we first determine the role of COT and then figure out how to organize everything else. Maybe be the curriculum committee for the entire Engineering/ Technology Department. Sharon also noted that separate degrees would have to be articulated separately, for example all Technology Studies degrees articulate into Technology Management under one agreement at Central CT State University. Mary Bidwell noted there is also a lot of non-credit in manufacturing too and how will the manufacturing dean work with non-credit.

Activities & Important Dates

- AARP Manufacturing Scholarships – These are still available for manufacturing students age 50+ who are willing to share their manufacturing success story. Scholarships are \$1250 through funding provided by AARP CT to the COT – American Manufacturing Hall of Fame. Students should contact Wendy Robicheau to apply. Karen noted that she and Wendy had done a presentation at the NSF ATE Principal Investigators Conference and attendees had not realized that AARP would be a successful partnership.
- [Journal of Advanced Technological Education](#) – This is a new journal created by a sister national center. They are looking for papers on community college technology programs. Karen is the Corresponding Editor. The journal will be highlighted at the Hight Impact Technology Exchange Conference in July. This will be a good means of dissemination.
- [NCNGM Webinar Series for Educators on Careers & Trends in Advanced Manufacturing:](#)
 - April 22nd – Lasers – 1:00PM EST
 - May 20th – Industry 4.0 – 1:00PM EST
 - These are presented by the CO-PIs from the NCNGM. Previous webinar recording and slides are available on nextgenmfg.org. This is also where you will register for remaining webinars. Please share with colleagues. We hope to offer another series in the fall.
- COT/CCAT: People, Pathways, and Technologies for the Future Manufacturing Workforce
 - [April 13th – Pathways – 1:00PM EST](#)
 - [May 4th – Technologies – 1:00PM EST](#)
 - We partnered with CCAT on this webinar series. The first one included a panel of female manufacturing business owners and leaders. A recording is available. There will be a panel of students and alumni during the second webinar. The third webinar will focus on technologies in advanced manufacturing and tie into the upcoming Additive Manufacturing Summit.
- [Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Manufacturing Sector Webinar – March 30th – 4:00pm EST – Presented by The American Manufacturing Communities Collaborative \(AMCC\), The Century Foundation, and the Urban Manufacturing Alliance](#) – Diversity, equity, and inclusion is important in manufacturing and this will be an informative webinar.
- [Additive Forum w/ CCAT – April 19th](#) – Focused on industry and educators are welcome too. This will be hybrid and you have to register for in-person or virtual participation.
- [ASEE Industry 4.0 Summit](#) – April 25-26, 2022 – Washington, DC – We have been part of the planning committee. Industry from across the US will participate as well as community colleges and universities. You have to register individually. So far it is only in-person. If you want to attend, check on your professional development first, the NCNGM can cover remaining registration and travel costs.
- Epsilon Pi Tau - Induction Ceremony – April 29, 2022 – In-person, Manchester Community College – COVID restrictions have been lifted so the event will be in-person. Please forward the updated letter to students so they can make arrangements. We will reach out for people to participate in the ceremony and nominations for honorary and faculty inductees too. Honor cords will be sent to campuses separately.
- [HI TEC](#) – July 25 – 28 – Salt Lake City, UT – The NCNGM will be holding a mechatronics workshop where attendees will receive a mechatronics trainer valued at \$300.

Upcoming COT Meetings

Friday, April 22nd, 2022 - Virtual

Friday, May 20th, 2022 - Virtual

COT Site Coordinators Meeting Attendance - March 25, 2022

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
Felisha Guirand-Fleurimond	Housatonic CC
Stella Litwinowicz	Housatonic CC
Mehrdad Faezi	Manchester CC
Richard Gnall	Manchester CC
Lin Lin	Middlesex CC
Andre Freeman	Capital CC
Joe DeFeo	Naugatuck Valley CC
Sharon Gusky	Northwestern CT CC
Crystal Wiggins	Northwestern CT CC
Mobin Rastgar Agah	Norwalk CC
Jakob Spjut	Quinebaug Valley CC
Jodi Clark	Quinebaug Valley CC
Brendan Mascarenhas	Tunxis CC
Mathew Spinelli	Tunxis CC
Ravindra Thamma	Central CT State University
Alaa Sheta	Southern CT State University
Christine Broadbridge	Southern CT State University
Todd Schwendemann	Southern CT State University
Amy Feest	CT State Community College
Other Institutions	
Hong Zhou	University of St. Joseph
Harvey Hoffman	Fairfield University
Dan Burkey	University of Connecticut
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