
Thursday April 15, 2021 at 6:00pm | Meeting called to order by Chase Budziak

In Attendance

Members Present:

Vickie Klick – Distinguished Member of Technical Staff, Nokia Corporation
Cohen Barnes – Mayor-elect of DeKalb, President of Sun Dog IT, Inc.
David Klick – Retired Kishwaukee College Computer Information Systems Professor
Adam Larsen – Assistant Superintendent, Oregon Community Unit School District 220
David Kornfeind – Technical PC Support for BP North America, Procom Services
Dale Boughton – Service Manager, Sun Dog IT, Inc.

KC Members Present:

Chase Budziak – Dean of Instruction
Joanne Kantner – Vice President of Instruction
Terry Lyn Funston – Director of Curriculum & Program Development
Laurie Hoecherl – Teaching Chair
RJ McGarry – Director of IT
Mike Ebner – Application Programmer
Bernie Pupino – Coordinator Career Internships & Apprenticeships

Spring 2021 Enrollment & Financial Information

Spring 2021 enrollment highlights and financial data presented:

- College enrollment for spring 2021 semester is down -14.4% over spring 2020 semester.
- College Online/Hybrid credits up 212.7% over spring semester.
- Computer Information Systems department program credits down 19 credits (-4.5%), from spring 2020 to spring 2021.

Department Update

- A. Fall 2021 Schedule & Staffing
- B. Curriculum updates for the department.
 - Certificate: CIS 484 Cybersecurity Specialist is the new 28-hour certificate. Included new 3-credit CIS 285 Cybersecurity course. Cover essential skill needed to detect and prevent cybersecurity issues faced by organizations. Appreciation to David and Vicki Klick for assistance in course development.
 - Degree: Two AAS degrees, CIS 437 Computer Information Systems and CIS 460 Networking & Systems Administration. These include the new Cybersecurity course added to the list of electives.
- C. Fulfilled our obligation to our Comprehensive Apprenticeship Grant which aims to connect employers with students in apprenticeship pathways available at the College,

- D. Google IT Certificate has been successful at generating interest in entry-level client support training. Department is aligning with Continuing Education to bridge the gap between the Google IT Certificate and the CompTIA A+ certification. Grant will provide free exam preparation and exam fees for students.

Strategic Planning & Discussion

- A. *What are the current or projected employment needs of their organization for over the next 2-3 years?*
- Boughten: Over the next 2-3 years they are looking to hire 3-4 engineers each year.
- B. *Are the majority of your new entry-level positions filled by individuals with previous training or candidates you are training in-house?*
- Boughten: Entry level positions for their CompTIA requirements for entry-level employees include: A+ as essential and Net+ as preferred. Experience plays a vital role in hiring candidates
 - Larsen: Some experience is preferred, but not required. Foundational coursework offered by the College compliments employer-specific training.
 - Barnes: Interested in sponsoring an apprenticeship with a KC student during summer of 2021.
- C. *Does the Kishwaukee College program provide the level of training that you require of new employees? Too much or too little? If there is an employer demand for IT training? What are your recommendations for getting more students into this training pipeline?*
- Boughten: Prefers candidates to have A+ or Net+ certification, but culture plays an important role, not just skill set. Self-driven, earn and learn candidates have a better chance to get hired and grow within an organization.
- D. Apprenticeships
- Vicky Klick: What duration is the college envisioning for apprenticeship opportunities?
 - o Internships typically from mid-May to mid-August
 - o Apprenticeships will depend on the needs of the interested business including duration, wages, commitment, required credentials.
- E. *Do you have any recommendations for guest speakers, teaching resources, potential instructors, or technology trends they want to see the college focus on for the next year?*
- Microsoft 365 Azure which will help transition students to cloud storage and not depending on physical servers. Industry is shifting to an Azure environment.
 - Suggested introductory course to the cloud, which is becoming a needed skillset in the industry.
 - Budziak: Asks the committee if we could find and recruit instructors to teach these classes also a way to make sure the instructors that have the proper credentials. Committee members suggested that their current employees may be reluctant to teach students in on-campus setting.
 - Suggested using industry professional as guest speakers to present on current technology they utilize.
- F. Other Discussion
- Recommendation to reach out to a contact at the Dekalb school district about intern or apprenticeship.
 - Larsen: School districts may soon be hiring and the apprenticeship program is ideal for the type of employees he is looking for. Oregon district will reach out to College when hiring.