

Electrical Power Technology Business Partnership Council Meeting

December 4, 2014 5pm – 6:30pm

Palm Beach State College, Palm Beach Gardens Campus, BioScience Building, Rooms SC149/SC150

Present:

Sharon Long, Florida Turbine Technologies

Mike Barfield, Sikorsky

Larry George, Pratt & Whitney

Bruce Fowler, Pratt & Whitney

Anthony Long, Solar Security

Paul Nadeau, TRC Solutions

Gregg Keller, FPL

Jim Politis, Palm Beach County School District

Bruce Wear, Palm Beach County School District

Bob Van Der Velde, Palm Beach State College

Jay Matteson, Palm Beach State College

Oleg Andric, Palm Beach State College

Meeting started with informal presentation of new equipment that EPT program has obtained (wind energy trainer, and distribution double bus bar training system), as well as discussions on various lab equipment available to the program and its usage and application within courses. Various features and capabilities of the new systems were demonstrated by Oleg and by a few EPT students present in room SC150.

Meeting proceeded with Oleg providing the overview of the program curriculum, program learning outcomes, and general state of the program. The Business Partnership Council was presented with hands-on activities, part of the improvement plan, that are implemented to improve program learning outcomes. Examples presented were multiple field trips, tying power generation to distribution and substation operations, within Electrical Distribution Substation course; production of biodiesel – full process with fuel quality analysis, within Intro to Biofuels course; as well as future plans for next semester: ethanol production, within Biofuels & Biomass course; SCADA, wind turbine simulation, wind data acquisition & analysis, within Intro to Wind course; graduation projects and special labs, within

Special Topics in EE course. Other activities presented were trips to power plants, Sikorsky, various departments of FPL, and student-led construction of a 10kW solar array on campus.

Oleg updated the council on the submission of the application for NSF ATE grant and thanked the BPC members for the letters of support. Oleg presented plans for the new AS in ET degree as well. Recruitment activities and cooperation with the School District was also presented.

Discussion about the new ET program, and the interest in it by Pratt & Whitney, ensued. Overall, BPC was content with the state of the program and were looking forward to hear more updates on the development of the new AS in ET degree.

Oleg thanked business partners for their continued support.