

**Business Partnership Council Meeting Minutes**

*Electrical Power Technology Program*

*Thursday December 7, 2017*

*5pm*

*Palm Beach Gardens Campus, SC149*

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ITEM 1.        *Introductions*

Discussion:

Informal introductions and discussions with students about programs, lab equipment, internships, jobs, skillsets needed in the industry.

Action:

N/A.

ITEM 2.        *EPT and ET State of the Program*

Discussion:

State of EPT and ET programs was presented with enrollment data, internship, graduation, and employment projections for current and following semesters. New lab equipment and software was presented as well. Fall 2017 enrollment was 43% up over Fall 2016; current Spring 2018 enrollment up 15% over Spring 2017 with higher enrollment expected before the beginning of the semester. There was a discussion and praise of the skills and knowledge and quality of education that the students get in the program.

Oleg presented on Guided Pathway curriculum initiative and presented EPT program Guided Pathway Map. It was perceived very well.

Action:

Current programs of tours, hands-on activities, and cross-discipline training will continue. Oleg thanked business partners for employing our students and graduates, and asked the industry to continue considering our students and graduates for their employment needs.

ITEM 3.        *Curriculum Changes*

Discussion:

Proposed curriculum changes for Electrical Power Technology:

- Remove elective course Intro to Hydro Power due to lack of relevance for FL location
- Remove course Power Plant Fundamentals due to duplication with Power Plant Science
- Change Power Plant Science be renamed and revised to become Power System Science to include SCADA, SmartGrid, transmission, and distribution instead only generation (Boost SCADA, energy transformation, general electrical knowledge skills)
- Replace Microcomputer Applications course with a Technical Writing course in order to boost technical writing skills
- Add additional contact hours to Process Measurement Fundamentals to boost I&C skills
- Adding additional contact hours to Special Topics in Electrical Engineering to boost I&C skills
- Merge Industrial Tools & Equipment course with Mechanical Measurements and Instruments
- Make Internship Course be mandatory

Proposed curriculum changes for Engineering Technology:

- Add course Power Plant Science (Power System Science? – see above) to ET – Alternative Energy Systems (program is lacking a general power system overview course)

- Remove elective course Standard Testing and Certifications from ET – Advanced Technology (incorrectly placed electrical soldering course into Advanced Technology)

**PROPOSED CONDITIONAL CURRICULUM CHANGES:**

(Pending award of Florida Job Growth Grant proposal):

Engineering Technology:

- Addition of two new concentrations to Engineering Technology degree:
  - ET – Advanced Manufacturing
  - ET – Machining Design & Fabrication
- Addition of new College Credit Certificates (CCC) within two new ET concentrations:
  - Digital Manufacturing Specialist
  - Industrial Technician (Mechatronics)
  - Automation
  - Lean Manufacturing
  - CNC Machinist
  - Pneumatics, Hydraulics, and Motors for Manufacturing
  - Medical Quality Systems

Action:

All changes were approved with all present voting for the proposed change except making Internship course mandatory. Although all current students do have an internship, Curtis proposed (and everyone agreed) that we monitor status of internship availability next year and based on that data to implement the mandatory requirement at that time.

**ITEM 4.**            *NSF InnovATE Grant*

Discussion:

Status of the grant activities was presented. BEST Summer Academy was a great success and Oleg thanked BPC members for support and activities during the Academy. Oleg presented on CPT course, and on our ability to offer customized CPT course to BPC members.

Action:

Current activities on NSF grant will continue and BPC was willing to help in all efforts and host tours.

**ITEM 5.**            *Student Success*

Discussion:

Students Alexander Burgess and Joseph Morel were chosen by NSF to attend NSF ATE PI Conference in Washington, DC in October 2017. Their presentations at the conference were a great success and exposure for both students and our programs. The students shared their experiences with the BPC members.

Students Alexander Burgess and Mario Chhan presented their Solar Benches project with the City of West Palm Beach.

Action:

BPC members and their engineering communities were invited to attend EPT Student Graduation Projects Presentations on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

**Attendance:**

Margie Sweezer-Fischer, FPL

John Fischer, FPL

John Fischer, FPL

Joe Dragon, FPL

Ed Knuckles, formerly FPL  
Dan Seidler, PowerWright Technology  
Curtis James, Sikorsky  
Larry George, Pratt & Whitney  
Sharon Long, Florida Turbine Technologies  
Eva Suarez, Florida Turbine Technologies  
Dave Ohlschwager, Florida Turbine Technologies  
Tony Hartzman, Agilis  
Brittany Kiser, School District of Palm Beach County  
Jennifer Davis, School District of Palm Beach County  
Jeff Parker, CrossMatch Technologies  
Bill McClurg, CrossMatch Technologies  
Jamil Newell, EDS Engineers  
Colin Jordan, Kimley Horn  
Amrit Harripaul, Enercon  
Troy Patton, Northland Power  
Becky Mercer, Palm Beach State College  
Alexandra Gorgevska, Palm Beach State College  
Lynn Gomes Highsmith, Palm Beach State College  
Ira Rosenthal, Palm Beach State College  
Erin Sullivan, Palm Beach State College  
Oleg Andric, Palm Beach State College

**Next Meeting Date: Fall 2016**

Submitted by: Oleg Andric, Scribe