Minnesota State Community and Technical College



[Name of Committee] Meeting

Date --- March 26, 2008

Location --- MSCTC, Moorhead, RM B163

Membership: (Attendees will appear in bold): **Dave Owings, Noridian (Chairperson); Don Stieha, General Equipment; Bruce Curtis, NDSU; Loren Tschosik, Preference Personnel; John Centko, MSCTC; Deb Flaskerud, MSCTC; Tim Preuss, MSCTC, Chris Goltz, MSCTC; Dave Hjalquist, MSCTC; Randy Johnson, MSCTC**

Meeting Notes

| Topic | **Responsible**  **Party** | Discussion/Outcome |
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| Information Technology Degrees update |  | ***Background*** *– MSCTC and MSUM are creating 2+2 agreements for a newly created Information Technology Degree*  ***Current Status*** *– Curriculum is in place; working towards final approval*  ***Action Needed*** *– Wait for final approval* |
|  |  |  |
|  | Dave O | Are there any course Prerequisite implications that need to be addresses? |
|  | Tim | With MS Office, students overstate their real abilities. |
|  | Don | What is outcome of computer literacy component? Should there be 3 separate 1 credit classes for different Office components? |
|  | Tim | Computer literacy can be defined by both short term and long term components. |
|  | Dave O | Are high schools handling preliminary skills? What is average age of students? (Answer: 22.) |
|  | John | MSCTC is seeing higher age groups. K-12 is declining through the next 13 years. Enrollment could reach 5,000 at MSCTC in next 5 years due to retraining regardless of prior degrees. Older students move quickly through curriculum. Older students stay in school longer, but take fewer credits, and prefer evening and online classes. |
|  | John | Some courses have mandatory skill/speed requirements using Accuplacer. |
|  | Bruce | Software version changes generate the need for new classes. |
|  | Dave O | Can individual instructors place prerequisites? |
|  | John | We can’t use hidden Prerequisites (it is a hidden cost); it must be placed at the program-level |
|  | Tim | MSUM would have an equivalent class to CPTR 1104 in terms of their Gen Ed requirements. MSUM will want to consider the concepts that we started. This will help to define computer literacy. |
|  | Bruce | Hopefully they will be prepared for the program they are going in to. |
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| Current "hot" topics in the field |  | ***Background*** *–*  ***Current Status*** *–*  ***Action Needed*** *–* |
|  | Dave O | RAD, JAD, Businesses need to develop partnerships. Sans: Trend Micro (Chinese) |
|  | Bruce | IPv6; competitive sales tactics; government requirements for certain operations (security). |
|  | Loren | Employer needs are cyclical. Anything from networking to Sequel Server to programming. It is a Candidates market. The market is moving from legacy applications to current (ex: upgrading to .Net). There are new startups. Technology companies are looking for candidates with 2-5 years experience. |
|  | Dave O | BCBS used 30 consultants last year from Florida, Kentucky, Texas, etc. They do not want to obligate to full time employees. |
|  | Loren | Specialized products like Oracle appear in the cycles. Employers want background checks, assessment testing, and people with visas (sponsored by mostly out of town organizations). |
|  | Dave O | Are new hires students? |
|  | Bruce | New hires vary by openings. Some are students that leave and come back |
|  | Dave O | Microsoft is proposing a 24/7 phone support center for MS applications. There could be250 new hires, Trends is support are shifting to local companies, not foreign (India). Microsoft chose Fargo because of the number of college students and low wages. |
|  | Don | HB1 visas are in the news. In the future, what aftermarket add-ons will be available? This could make additional training necessary. Also, employers don’t like boot camps. |
|  | Tim | Our IPv6 class ended up being filled by current students. How do we get the word out? |
|  | John | Process of stacking, marketing, adjusting to the marketplace |
|  | Bruce | Budgeting for employee training. |
|  | Don | At General Equipment retraining is worth 10% of an employee’s bonus |
|  | Dave O | At Noridian, Technology Conferences and Technology Training are on split budgets. |
|  | Bruce | Conferences or classes can have equal importance. |
|  | Tim | If we could offer specific training classes, what could we offer? |
|  | Dave O | “Technical Customer service Training” |
|  | Don | Websites are not the best marketing tool. Direct contact with the managers is more effective. |
|  | Bruce | VoIP would be a good class. |
|  | Don | Blackberry server class. |
|  | Dave O | (To Loren) for candidates that don’t meet an employer’s qualifications, would Training Classes work to improve their employability? |
|  | Loren | Certifications depend on the individual employer. Candidates are choosing boot camps with some positive results. Students should keep building their skill sets. Lots of VoIP. |
|  | Don | Most new companies are installing VoIP. |
|  | Deb | Can we contact HR people at local companies? |
|  | Dave H | Job fairs. |
|  | Deb | Can we host a LAN party before the end of the school year? |
|  | Dave O | What user groups are still in town? |
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|  | Dave O | Advertising could be placed in newsletters from organizations such as Noridian, Innovis, Meritcare, Microsoft |
|  | Gaming Club | MSCTC Technology, Gaming, and Robotics Club <http://cc.minnesota.edu/> |
|  | Careers Website | <http://careers.minnesota.edu/> |

**Vision Statement:**

MSCTC will be a regionally recognized organization focused on and partnering for innovation, learning, and your future.

**Mission Statement:**

To provide accessible education with vigor and integrity to diverse learners, preparing them for dynamic learning, living, working, and serving.