**AIRE & EGEE Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Friday, March 01, 2019**

**2:00-4:00pm**

**In attendance:** Justin Bond, Fred Julian (department chair), Erin Rempala (Chair of Life Sciences), Susan Davison, Cassie Morton, Martin Naranjo (A.O. Reed),Tim Lowe (Action Heating and Air), Luke Morton (CABEC)

*Guests:*Branislav Bloggie Blagoyevitch, Martin Ybarra, Anthony Brooke, Juan Davila

*Call to order: 2:17pm*

Justin Bond began with group introductions.

**Approval of minutes:**

Motion to approve, Cassie Morton w/ Susan approving

All in favor, no abstain

When curriculum changes, will host quarterly meetings

**Status of AIRE:**

Justin explains that curriculum changes have been happening. All changes have been through regional consortium, next step is State approval, hoping to run new courses in Fall 2019.

Purchasing NIDA trainers approved, hope to be purchased in July 2019 using CTEA funds. Trainers will be in the computer lab in T-221 for the AIRE program.

Justin Bond discussed options such as Interplay Learning, virtual lab, 150 different faults using virtual reality headsets for lab exercises. Justin asked if the committee would the committee like to endorse this addition to the program. The board considered it to be an asset and a good idea likely to enhance the program. The cost is $128/year, but Justin Bond will follow up on the pricing until next meeting. Item tabled by Justin Bond until next meeting.

Action Heating and Air explained that they pay roughly $5,000 per person for training w/ Lennox using simulation software. Advisory Board is recommending to look more into this option, look at cost if it’s per user or unit, school may get a discount. Justin Bond will follow up with Lennox for cost on training and hope to apply for funding in Fall 2019.

**AIRE Students invited to know what the industry is looking for in new hires:**

-Education is key, employment with A.O. Reed, attending school/classes or training is a plus for hiring. Certifications like EPA (required), OSHA 10 & 30, CPR/First Aid all a plus.

The committee agrees that it the program could improve with creating a class around enhancing interviewing/people skills. Justin Bond has been working with career center to set up workshops for resume building and interviewing to get students prepared for industry jobs. He is also exploring options in implementing this into the AIRE program.

The committee discussed challenges that students are facing in gaining employment after applying for jobs. A.O. Reed claims that the biggest challenge for most applicants is people skills, customer skills. Students may interview well but people skills needs to be addressed. Having confidence to interview takes time to reach this level. In the last 5 months, have hired 10-15 people and the key component of hiring was the people skills and self-initiative to want to work. They start with a 60-90 day probationary period. Employees can move around within departments based on knowledge and experience, opportunity to grow. There are also requirements by government to conduct background checks, based on customer’s needs (like Live Scan &/or TB test for school districts). Also, must account for physical ability to avoid injuries. They are considering making it a requirement to get physicals before beginning employment.

Tim Lowe: soft skills are needed when working with customers, explaining issues to the costumer in terms they can understand. Looking at certifications, which will get you in the door, applications online (no face to face) and experience.

Justin Bond ask about how important reference letters are to gaining employment.

Action Heating and Air claims that it depends on where they are coming from. They look at schooling and the instructor of record. They look for folks who take initiative. Safety is key and if the student comes with more certifications, it could boost them into a higher pay scale.

*Could an engineering cap stone course help address the issues being discussed here?*

The Board discussed the possibility of making a course to conduct interviews, resume building, soft skills development. Maybe the engineering department could incorporate this as an engineering cap stone class.

**Hiring of new instructional lab tech:**

Justin Bond explained that with the expansion of the program, an additional instructional lab technician will be essential to maintaining safe lab conditions, and to ensure that lab equipment maintains operational readiness condition.

**Status of EGEE:**

These courses have already been approved, outlines provided to attendees. Justin has been creating new courses and has been communicating with the City College Academic Senate to create a 1 unit climate literacy course to make a graduation requirement with the exception of transfer students.

Next step, create program for Green Building Energy Professionals. 18 units are required for an associate degree as a Green Building Energy Professional, and the list of courses was decided upon by the committee as appropriate.

*After reviewing the courses*

The Board excited about new courses. If the courses cover Green building, may want to consider changing name “building energy energy professional” more appropriate name considering the courses related to this area.

One outcome hoping to see; certified analyst energy CEA (difficult to get) or AEA certification. Creating one more course, variation of building science principles (BPI).

The board discussed accounting for rules, regulations, and compliance with CA Energy Code and Policy. CA focused necessary but may need to be a standalone, maybe as an option. Important but not a core class, not mandated.

The board discussed how this relates to Title 24 regulations. Title 24 is mandatory in CA so maybe an elective course could be created.

For degree name: Green Building Energy Professional.

(This program will be geared towards energy auditors and energy consulting)

The board agrees on the courses to make up the new Green Building Energy Professional awards.

Susan explained about Community Choice Aggregation (CCA), and that the 4 utilities in CA are under massive fire. They are getting out of power generation and moving to power distribution only. Newly created CCA companies are hiring. New positions which are essentially “power brokers” are popping up and it is as a result of the CCA. They are creating the market and delivering directly to homes. Power broking, is the new place to go and a potential direction for the program.

**Potential pathways for EGEE:**

Will proceed for certifications for Green Building Energy Professional for Certificate of Achievement, A.S.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Award Title | Award Type | Units |
| Green Building Energy Professional | Associate of Science | 18 |
| Green Building Energy Professional | Certificate of Achievement | 18 |

Vote: Susan motion to move, Erin Rempala, second. All in favor, no abstains.

**Instructors:**

Anyone open to becoming an instructor or have suggestions, please send to Justin.

*Meeting Adjourned: 3:41pm*