Construction Field Supervision

Minutes
Fall 2012 Industry Advisory Board Meeting
South Central College, Faribault Campus
Room: B -114
Thursday November 15, 2012 4:30-6:00 PM

I. Call to Order: Jay Valentyn called the meeting to order at 4:40 PM

II. Introductions: Members present Jay Valentyn, Steve Underdahl, Steven Schmidt, Al Ernste, Jeff Miller, Dr. Suzanne Nordblom

III. Review of Minutes: Recap of the Spring Industry Advisory Board minutes was discussed. Al motioned to approve, Steve seconded all voted in favor the motion carried.

IV. Updates:
   A. Marketing/Recruiting/Retention:
      1. Fall 2012 Enrollment: The program started the fall with 18 first year students and 12 second year students. This is relatively good numbers.
      2. CFS webpage and Facebook: Jeff mentioned that a CFS Facebook page has been created with the help of a work study student. Students are using different methods then traditional campus visits for their selection. The CFS webpage has improved there are multiple links to the Advisory Board sites, Program Plan, Instructor Bio. Links to affiliations and organization affiliated with CFS. Jeff also mentioned that he has been working the Associated Builders and Contractors of Minnesota and North Dakota for advertising and opportunities to get their mailing list, we sent out Summer mailing to everyone on the list. Jay mentioned Jeff should talk with the Minnesota Electrical Association for marketing as well.
   
   B. ACCE (American Council for Construction Education)
      1. The ACCE has changed their format of accreditation, in the past it has been content based such as 2 hours of Estimating, they are in the process of changing it to outcomes based assessment. Where as a student will have to show or demonstrate mastery of concrete estimating etc. Jeff has been advised through multiple Associate and Bachelor Mentors to wait and let the programs that have already gone through the old method, go through the new methods. This will work out all the bugs and provide guidance for new schools seeking accreditation. Jeff explained that the time it takes to complete the project is overwhelming and demanding. Jay asked if the institution can provide some resources such as release time or support to assist. Dr. Nordblom stated the college does support this effort and asked if we could defer the remaining conversation to later agenda items.
   
   C. Grants:
      1. We finalized the Minnesota Energy Sector Partnership (LEED) grant. This was completed September 30, 2012. Three people received a LEED- Green Associate Credential. Jeff explained that the USGBC requirements for obtaining a LEED-AP credential are very difficult with
the timing of the grant. The participants need hours of documented experience on LEED projects. This made the second tier of the training almost impossible.

D. Articulation/Transfers
   1. We have met with MSU-Mankato we have all the courses and agreements finalized and we are waiting for signatures from the Administration on both campuses to make it official. The students will receive 16 credits in Liberal Arts and Science courses and 21 Technical credit transfers for 37 total credits.

V. Old Business: NONE

VI. New Business
   A. Program Health: Jeff has received a lay-off notice. The administration has been looking at enrollment and retention of students in programs. Although enrollment has been acceptable the retention has not been good. Students leave for a variety of reasons, work, family, prison. Jay asked if we exit interview these students, students will not return calls or emails to find out any data on why they did not complete. We are also seeing cases where students will not complete the Liberal Arts courses to reach degree requirements. Jeff and the Dean have been meeting to discuss strategies to improve retention. One of the methods is to take the classes from the full online method and bring them to a hybrid format where they meet once per week for a longer time frame several occurrences throughout the semester. This will allow the instructor to keep a stronger connection with the students. Steve mentioned that he feels the students will benefit from being connected to the college more.
   The committee also discussed changing the name of the program. Several ideas where discussed such as Construction Management and Construction Supervision. By taking the "Field" word out of the title of the program, it may open the door for the potential student to not feel like they will never move from the field to a management position. There was a motion by Al and Seconded by Steve to change the name of the program to Construction Supervision. All voted yes and motion carried. The board also viewed the program page and program plan. They would like us to do some target marketing and get some verbiage in the literature about increased earning potential. They would also like us to speak with Human Resources at the potential employers to discuss the opportunity to offer students some incentives to graduate. This can come in the form of a stipend or tuition reimbursement.
   B. Spring Meeting Dates: No Action Taken, but Jeff will schedule soon.

VII. Announcements: None

VIII. For the Good of the Order: Meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM