

CADD Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes—10-05-01

Warner Richeson, Program Coordinator, introduced himself. He then named the full time and part time faculty for the program, as reflected on the agenda. Toni Jenkins, Executive Vice President, was introduced by Warner to the group.

Toni spoke of changes for the division, along with the retirement of John Baltzer and the hiring of Ann Beheler. Toni shared with the group Ann's background and explained that Ann will be an asset to the Division. Additionally, Toni explained the overall direction she hopes to take the Division, emphasizing a desire to be flexible with business needs, as well as professional development with business and training academic needs. Toni hopes to add more Continuing Education (CE) classes to our programs. In the future, we anticipate doing a lot of course/program development.

Warner explained to the group that Sam Miranda will be bringing together the INDS classes. We need the committee to inject real world situations. Warner went on to explain that the college is having a classroom crunch, especially with the evening classes. Plano West High School was kind enough to share a room with us. A majority of our students work full time during the day. We have also participation with the high schools through the Global Edge office. Basic Auto CADD, Intermediate and Technical Drafting classes are offered at the local high schools. These programs at the high school level teach what we teach at the college, so that those students can come into the college to complete their certificate. Toni added that we are at capacity throughout the college campuses. We've experienced a 12-½% increase in enrollment. Enrollment is in inverse relation with the economy; with the economy being down, the enrollment will go up. Toni added that we are concerned about the Spring Creek Campus (SCC) capacity. We have a bond election coming up. We're hoping for a new building, the location is still undecided; can't tell yet without the funding.

Warner explained that he had learned a lot from the Co-op program we offer at the college; we also try to get Industry folks to come and teach for the college. Students gain a lot from these teachers because they can learn about real world situations. A question was posed as to what percentages of students are in the co-op program? If students are seeking an Associate degree, all of those students are in the co-op program, as it is a requirement for degree completion.

There are some negative effects, Warner stated, when a student enrolls for a class, but doesn't pay the tuition. Perhaps it's because they do not understand that there is a deadline to pay. Whatever the reason, it makes it difficult. An instructor, if he/she chooses, has to hunt down the student to tell them to pay. This also makes the class look full because a student has enrolled, but not registered.

Warner distributed some handouts, which provided some information on Veribest and Printed Circuit Board programs. We need a parts library course. Need to decide if Physics should remain in the CADD program. Toni mentioned an increased involvement in CE classes. What would the demand be in industry for short classes, e.g. 2-3 days,

nights, and weekends to polish up. Toss up for discussion the revamping of some of the degree requirements due to applicability. The point was raised that students who want to pursue four-year degrees, end up starting from scratch. David Guerin, one of our adjuncts, responded that program industry is getting more specialized. We need to do what is in the best interest of the student. If it's better to have more transferable classes, then that's what we need to do.

Doug Boone offered congratulations to Collin County Community College for his son, who is preparing to enter a four-year institution. He was well prepared with transferable courses. Mr. Boone does not feel that trigonometry should be dropped from the CADD curriculum because it is a basic course needed to be a well-educated person. If that is changed, then perhaps it could be changed to be offered as a faster pace. Slowing down for the student isn't helping him/her, because they won't be able to keep up in the real work world.

Warner's theory is that, if a student finishes his/her work, then he/she helps someone else in the class.

Toni pointed out that it is a dilemma of all colleges—skills vs. transferability. CADD courses not, in and of themselves, are transferable. By and large, CADD students who come to us are older students who have decided they want to stay in this field.

Janet Jaworski, Global Edge, indicated that, at the high school level, CPMT1411 and CETT1325 classes are pretty popular. Ray Mendoza, a CADD student, indicated that he has never had any problems or need to interface with the hardware.

Roger Fries stated that the most difficult part of this process is the length of time for approval of any curriculum changes. Toni agreed that the duration of time it takes for the credit classes to get approved, is lengthy; CE classes, however, don't need state approval for curriculum and can be set up more quickly. But the CE classes don't fit into a degree plan.

Tori Hoffman, Collin County Community College advisor, stated that students frequently ask about CE classes and how businesses will perceive the CE classes. The market for CE classes are those classes already in the job market. Beginning students should begin with credit classes.

Warner added that the Solidworks program is gaining in popularity. It performs the same functions as the Pro Engineer (Pro E) program however it is easier, hence faster, to learn. Solidworks is used by more businesses. Solidworks is the program most widely used but those who use it don't make as great an income because it is simpler than Pro E.

DFTG1356 Descriptive Geometry class could be reviewed to possibly make it a math class and thus transferable; it would be helpful to rename the course. This course helps develop visualization; any mechanical drafter needs it. Mechanical drafters of today will really be a solid modeling drafter of tomorrow. Perhaps it's time to consider a new certificate program for solid modeling. Manufacturing has gotten to the point where they

have software and develop solid modeling. A drafter needs to know how to do solid modeling.

DFTG2350 GD&T class needs to be retained in the program. If not as a credit class, then as a CE class. It is needed in industry and can make a difference in a big or little scrap pile. There is a lot of competition in this class because several individuals teach it. We would not have a lock on delivering these classes.

Sam Miranda recommends 1. that we change the Auto CADD specialization certificate to reflect the various possible end user groups by allowing the last class (LISP Program) be an elective from the DFTG catalog; and 2. Sam's predecessor was trying to get an AAS degree for INDS to be accredited. That's impossible to do now. Transferability is a huge problem. Students used to think if they took courses towards an AAS degree, they could pursue a BA. That's not the case at this time. We need to work with UNT and El Centro College to ensure our students that they can in fact transfer.

Janet Jaworski stated that 29% of new jobs are applicable to two-year degree programs. Sam added that professional licensing at the state level has changed things in the world. INDS is a certificate, not a degree. INDS label is a professional license and governed by state law. We need to determine if we should stay with an INDS degree or tweak it to be a certificate. Toni added that the college is working on adding pre-Architect and pre-Engineering and ABET accreditation programs. Sam went on to say that we are in a unique position in Collin County because there aren't any large universities near here. We feed universities in other counties.

Warner made a formal motion to reappoint David Guerin as the chairperson; all present were in favor. David voiced the importance of consideration of the proposals set forth at the meeting, and suggested that they should be reviewed in subcommittees. It was determined that the subcommittees should be divided into Electronics/DFTG, INDS and CADD to consider software and curriculum and hardware issues. Additionally, it is the goal to promote our programs and schedules to industry. A suggestion was made that we recruit from the McKinney Airspace Company, which has an excellent designer employed there. Those volunteering for the Electronics/DFTG subcommittee were Doug Boone, Kenneth McVea and Ray Mendoza; for the INDS subcommittee were Sam Miranda and Roger Fries; and for the CADD subcommittee were Larry Holmes, George Schilp and Mac McGriff.

In an effort to provide feedback to the group and review the results fairly quickly, it was suggested that another Advisory Committee meeting be scheduled for November 9, 2001 at 8:00 a.m. All present were in agreement.

David Guerin
CADD Advisory Committee
Chairperson

excused absence
Damon Oran
CADD Advisory Committee
Co-chairperson