



INSTRUCTIONAL FACULTY CONSORTIUM COMMITTEE (IFCC)

AVIATION MAINTENANCE TECHNOLOGY MEETING MINUTES

Date: Friday, July 28, 2023

Time: 10:00 am – 11:30 am

Location: webex

Meeting Facilitator: Jon Byrd, GNTC

Recorder: Tal Loos STC

Attendees: Jon Byrd, Zach Fager and Philip Moore, GNTC; Ian Toppin, ATC; Victoria Herron and Julie Partain, SGTC; Tal Loos and Jimmie Smith, STC; Daniel Whitehead, CGTC; Alan Biercewicz, CTC; Brandy Wilkes, WGTC; Steve Conway, Dr. Ray Perren, Aaron Sones, and Richard Young, TCSG.

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Jon Byrd welcomed all attendees to the meeting. Jon then explained his role as the TCSG aviation programs advisor. Dr. Perren thanked the group for their hard work recruiting students and for maintaining excellence in teaching. Jon stated that though the focus of discussion today would be on AMT programming, structural programs, avionics, and other affiliated programs will also be a focus moving forward. Perhaps joint meetings between all instructors of these programs annually would be needed.

DISCUSSION:

Jon then moved on to introduce Aaron Sones who explained the recently updated marketing materials for aviation programs. Aaron explained that folks in a particular SDA that meet a demographic are captured digitally and passed along to the appropriate college for follow up. Aaron showed several different screens in the marketing tools, especially the animated ones. Aaron closed by stating that in just 3 weeks of using these materials TCSG has captured about 133 leads. Each of these leads can be accessed in the Target X platform. The group agreed these marketing tools looked great.

Richard Young then introduced himself to the group and he explained that his research division was trying to capture real time data for enrollment for each college as well as remaining capacity this fall term. Richard was going to send Jon a report who would then send out to each director to fill in for the coming fall co-horts. The group promised to respond to this request ASAP.

Jon then asked the group how implementation of the new FAA standards were going? The group basically said things were going smooth. Not every new course had been taught yet, but by this fall they all should be run

once. Jon stated that he had noticed one duplication in PP in the regs. He was working with the FAA to try and correct that.

Jon then asked Steve to comment briefly on AI in the classroom and programs. Steve explained that AI tools have been available since the late fall that are actually pretty powerful. The AI chat bots can answer very complex questions in novel ways and even do math problems. Steve encouraged instructors to explore these technologies if they had not already and to be aware of how students could use these technologies properly and improperly.

Jon then asked each college representative to comment on new personnel or new equipment. Atlanta reported a bit of turnover and they are currently seeking one more instructor. Ian then asked about the new ratios and Tal stated that 25:1 in a lab is the new reg. Augusta was not present today but Jon said he would be visiting that campus next week. Central GA reported that 24 new students is their target. The program's personnel has remained steady for 2 years. Chattahoochee reported that they had lost one person and they are currently trying to find an avionics instructor. The building should be completed late October and move in should occur in December. GNTC reported that they have a 4th instructor now and will add a 4th co-hort later this year. The college also has some equipment still on order and waiting to be received. Jon added that NC3 curriculum is going well. Savannah reported that they have some equipment on order. Then Tal announced he has transitioned to being a VPED and the programming duties were going to Jimmie Smith. The college president also made reporting of the AMT program go to ED rather than AA starting this fall term. South GA stated that they had one new instructor and some new equipment in the mix. SGTC has also had a really successful marking effort recently for their program and expects to have a full fall co-hort. Wiregrass reported that an instructor has been hired and will start in August. Work for FAA certification is still ongoing and equipment is being purchased for structural teaching to begin spring term.

Jon closed out the discussion topics with explaining the listening sessions scheduled for October. These sessions will have a panel of industry speakers and then breakout table discussions with TCSG attendees and other business and industry representatives. Oct. 10 will be at Central GA, Macon; Oct. 12 will be at South GA; Oct. 19 will be at Savannah; and Nov. 2 will be at Chattahoochee Tech, Acworth. Jon encouraged all directors to attend as many session as they could.

The group ended discussions by looking at Career Academies and programming. Essentially no AMT programming has been/would be done at these locations but several colleges are experiencing success with the other aviation related programs like structural.

CONCLUSION AND ACTION ITEMS:

Jon would forward everyone the spreadsheet on enrollment and capacities this morning. Jon would also send out the listening session registration links as soon as they are available.

Meeting Adjourned: The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am

Minutes Submitted By: Tal Loos, Savannah Tech