



## INSTRUCTIONAL FACULTY CONSORTIUM COMMITTEE (IFCC)

### AIR CONDITIONING TECHNOLOGY MEETING MINUTES

**Date:** Thursday, October 05, 2023

**Time:** 10:00 am

**Location:** Virtual (Webex)

**Meeting Facilitator:** Mike Howard

**Recorder:** Mike Howard

**Attendees:** Freddie Williams-Lanier (Chair), Coleman Simmons-Athens, Shaun Blocker-Augusta, Christopher James-Augusta, Mark Cooper-Central GA, Christopher Heenan-Chattahoochee, John Davis-Coastal Pines, James Hutcheson-Coastal Pines, Craig Oldenburg-Columbus, Chad Wheat-GA Northwestern, Jason Brown-GA Northwestern, Sam Mitchell-GA Piedmont, Kelvin Snell-GA Piedmont, Harry Tanase-Gwinnett, Reed Lovell-Gwinnett, Lane Ivester-North GA, Bradley Huckabee-Oconee Fall Line, Vince Scott-Southeastern, Glenn Mobley-Southern Regional, Mike Clements-Southern Regional, Billy Garner-West GA, Kathy Ballard-Wiregrass, Mike Howard-TCSG

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#### WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Freddie Williams, state IFCC chair, called the meeting to order at 10:05 am and thanked everyone for their attendance.

#### DISCUSSION SUMMARY:

##### Short TCCs; Micro-Credentials & Badges

**Mike Howard**

Mike discussed the new Badges initiative by TCSG. Badges are not awards, such as a TCC, diploma or degree, but are issued to the students upon completion of a course or program. A Badge can also be issued for completion of a portion of a course, such as EPA Certification. Columbus Tech is leading the initiative and is having badges created for all courses and programs currently in the curriculum database. Additional Badges may be created for a specific purpose. The Badges are digital so students can add them to online resumes, LinkedIn accounts, etc. The Badges include the competencies the student completed to earn the badge.

The TCSG state board has recently approved a policy revision which allows TCC programs to be as short as 3 credit hours. These short TCCs, which are 3-5 credit hours will have a major code ending in a "5" as opposed to a "1". This was in response to industry wanting students much sooner and knowing they will need additional training. Some short TCCs have already been created for construction and manufacturing, primarily around safety training. Short TCC programs must have a credential that leads to entry-level employment for the student.

**IFCC Co-Chair Selection****Freddie Williams**

Freddie announced a new IFCC co-chair needs to be selected and opened the floor for volunteers. Mike gave a brief overview of the responsibilities for the co-chair. After nobody volunteered, the floor was opened for nominations. Robert Ladford from Chattahoochee Tech was nominated and approved by all in attendance.

**SkillsUSA****Chad Wheat**

Chad encouraged instructors to get involved in SkillsUSA and having students compete at the state conference. The state conference and national conference, which is in Atlanta, are great opportunities for students and instructors to interact with industry. McKinney's is one of the sponsors and is one of the largest contractors in the Southeast. Freddie talked about how it is a great experience for the students, and they always return from the conference energized.

**Mingledorffs****Harold Nelson & Kevin Livingston**

Harold and Kevin were unable to attend the meeting but will be invited to attend the spring IFCC meeting.

**Open Discussion**

Freddie spoke briefly about HVAC Excellence accreditation, and he is available to assist any college that wants to pursue accreditation. He also spoke about how the accreditation has had a positive impact on his program. Mike mentioned students earning an external credential are looked upon favorably by the administration. Freddie then opened the discussion to the spring IFCC meeting and suggested a face-to-face meeting at a centralized location, such as Oconee Fall Line. Brad at OFTC agreed to host the meeting. Some dates in April were talked about with no date being set during the meeting. A date will be set and announced on the listserv. Mike reminded the instructors they can use the HVAC listserv as a resource, whether it be asking what textbook other instructors use, a curriculum question, or even asking if they can visit other labs.

**Adjourn****Freddie Williams**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:54 am.

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**Minutes Submitted By:** Mike Howard