# OCCC Minutes
# October 16, 2009
# Portland Community College, Sylvania

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***Presiding:*** Len Eaton, Clackamas Community College

***Attendees:***

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| Ron Wallace (Blue Mt CC) | Mitch Fry (Chemeketa) | Debra Carino (Clackamas CC) | Len Eaton (Clackamas CC) |
| Linda Loft (Lane CC) | Jim Bailey (Lane CC) | Dodi Coreson (Linn-Benton) | Wayne Machuca (MHCC) |
| Colin Goble (PCC) | Taylor Hanna (PCC) | Molly Shor (OSU) | Diana Schab (SWOCC) |
| Carla Fant (PSU) | Bryant York (PSU) | Bart Massey (PSU) | Cyndy Patterson (Rogue) |
| Jay Bockelman (OIT-Portland) | Jim Allen (UofO) | Bob Broeg (WOU) | |

***Minutes***

Welcome and Introductions

Campus Reports

OIT

* Embedded systems engineering is graduating its first students.
* Enrollment is growing, new faculty are being hired.
* Lots of work with renewable engineering.
* Growth in health informatics program.
* Increasing emphasis on senior practica. Example: Welch-Alleyn
* Q: Level of student prep for 4-year? A: Seems good.

BMCC

* Budget crunch per normal.
* New computer literacy requirement is overflowing

classes.
* Industry partnerships in early stage of development.
* Thanked for maintaining the OCCC website.

WOU

* Enrollment is up, money is OK. Tuition is frozen at the University level. Faculty is tight due to lack of new hires.
* Two majors: CS and IS. International and grad IS is taking off.

LBCC

* Parking is an issue.
* Enrollment is up, money is tight. Staff is overtaxed.
* Testing shows need for literacy.

Chemeketa CC

* Less money, more students.
* Third-year program, two-year cert program are working well.
* Articulation with HS Discrete Math course. Talk to <mitch.fry@chemeketa> about curriculum development. Is it an alternative to calculus for less strong students, or a college-level prep course?
* Second-year certificates working well.

Clackamas CC

* 20% increase in enrollment, 200% in workshops.
* HS prep students using lab space.
* Four-year informatics degree accreditation in partnership---difficult to develop, but important.
* Test proctoring for offline students? Quite a bit of discussion; seems to be a widespread practice.

PCC

* Enrollments up 16% in CS, campus is full.
* Accreditation close for Health Informatics program. One strategy for accreditation is to put someone else's course on your books after review; be careful that there's qualified faculty on your campus. Email <mtalbert@lbcc.edu> for more info.
* PSU / OHSU Health Informatics degree program is

working for some students.

Lane CC

* Enrollment is way up, 23% college wide with CS around 30-40%. No faculty hires means large load and part-time fill-ins.
* New "full-time teaching" positions: "part-timer" with full load. Allowing covering a lot more curriculum.
* Some Health Informatics involvement; transfer degree with OIT.
* New Dean Stacey Schulz [sp?].
* Gravel on grass parking. :-)
* Q: What are actual enrollment numbers? A: Big numbers of students, larger class sizes, more sections.

RCC

* Enrollment is up. New AAAS in Health IT.
* Visual Basic class is being offered on both campuses.

SWOCC

* Big enrollment increases. Lost two faculty, leaving three full-time instructors. Finding good high-end part time instructors. Offering them stipend to work on course outlines to help retention.
* Revamping degree, adding more specialty certificates.
* Renaming CS classes that really aren't to IT etc. Other campuses are doing the same: CIS / CAS.

PSU

* Enrollment is up after a dip.
* Changes to 161/162 are in progress. 161 is now instructor-chosen programming language, not required for CS degree. Changes are working well in bringing students up to speed faster. Has helped both the less-prepared and more-prepared students.
* PCC has made big articulation changes to match. One articulation issue remaining is diversity of PL capabilities.

OSU

* Enrollment is fairly flat, maybe due to spillover of student to community college.

* Oswald embedded PC required, used heavily in curriculum.
* No big Health Informatics push; maybe with vet and pharmacy schools.
* Big sustainability push.
* Q: ECE CS integration? A: Some basic cross-training is required of both ECE and CS students.

Discussion: Courses on software testing and methodologies.

What curriculum is out there targeted at the QA field? What sorts of things are being taught.

OIT reports a 300-level software testing course, covering both testing methodologies and some tools.

PSU has 300-level SE course with testing component. Capstone covers testing. OMSE has about 1.5 testing courses. Belief was that it would be nice to move SE and test lower in the curriculum. Students are required to participate in online discussions on testing, problem solving, etc. Maybe vocabulary and basic knowledge is most important?

OSU has two-term SE course with testing, two new faculty members in software test. They emphasize integrating testing material into 100/200 courses.

WOU reports that they need to keep the SE in third or fourth year for articulation reasons. They are now offering an alternate PL project programming course, and have found it very successful in preparing students.

Bug tracking, SCMS and related things are also very important, and need to be integrated with testing.

Q: What are people doing to teach instrumentation in first and second year courses. A: Blue-J / JUnit at Chemeketa.

Assignment of course numbers for game development

PCC has introduced two new game development classes. One split is between game programming and game development without programming. They don't really want to change the course numbers at all.

Courses numbered 125, 133, 135G and 233 are approved state-wide.

Curriculum varies a little.

Jim Bailey has an 8-course game development program---see below. Basically game-integrated replacement undergraduate curriculum.

Overall question may be about consistency, but since the person proposing it isn't here, it's difficult to say. General consensus seemed to be to leave well enough alone unless there are specific issues.

OSU: Curriculum on "Software Systems for Sustainability and Renewable Energy"

New Applied CS Program track at OSU. Program proposal was distributed. Goal is to prepare students for industry jobs in sustainability and renewable-energy related industries. Q: Was some of this driven by industry? A: Director started her own company, and has come back. The company is still going.

Q: Business partners for internships etc? A: Mostly MECOP internships. Some discussion of MECOP ensued. It was unclear whether sustainability and renewable energy was a MECOP focus. Many folks didn't know much about MECOP, so a summary and discussion was given.

Game development curriculum

Oregon State reports that their game dev course is 400 level, and covers a bunch of esoteric stuff like storytelling in addition to core game issues. Lots of game-development-related courses are available.

Issue: Need a new website manager

Chemeketa will take over, and probably wikify it. PSU offered infrastructure.

Fifth Annual David Swenson Award

Award for OCCC scholarship, leadership and service. Award is to David Todd.

Award process is by email nomination. It was generally agreed that it works well.

The possibility of a plaque was discussed. It was generally agreed upon, except for how to fund it. Finally, it was decided to pass the hat.

Discussion: Defining science requirements for CS

A curriculum group has been asked to establish criteria and select classes based on these criteria for CS transfer students. A JBAC document has been distributed. Two-year timeframe for completion. Southwestern rolled their old requirements, with outcomes to be established later.

The statement might need to be specific to AAOT [sp?]. PCC will draft some initial stuff right away. Hopefully this will be a first step in squaring things up, maybe by Spring.

Discussion: Computer literacy

There was some discussion of whether, what and how computer literacy training should work. Example was given of students signing up for online courses without a computer or knowledge of how to use one. Chemeketa and Southwestern require computer literacy in their AS degrees. Rogue makes it a prerequisite for their writing course. Chemeketa is considering making it a pre-program requirement.

OSU requires a wireless laptop and Oswald for their CS students. WOU doesn't require laptops, but does report difficulties with them in classrooms. Chemeketa points out that things like robots are difficult for distance ed students. LBCC has considered a requirement as a lab replacement, but so far hasn't done so.

Discussion: Statewide gaming curriculum

PCC: A few years ago, started with 133G. Great for enrollments, good introduction to CS. Issues have been around trying to do more advanced gaming courses. Enrollments have been disappointing, for some unknown reason. Questions arise around programming language and game engine. Flash is a big deal, and maybe PCC should do more of it.

There's far more to gaming than CS: storytelling, behavior, art, animation, AI, math, physics, HCI, programming and architecture [OSU]. Pulling that together at PCC has proved to be a challenge.

Q: What motivation? Foster 133 student move to more advance courses? Job market? A: Student interest is very high. However, it's a very rigorous program whose endgame is a less-than-ideal career, so student retention is a problem. It's important to have early exit tracks. The "programming lite" courses are very popular, but not

necessarily sustainable.

Lane [Jim Bailey]: Full-on serious two-year curriculum (AAAS in Computer Simulation and Games Development) including everything from Maia to SCMS. Scripting and event-driven coding. Two-term practicum course on Torque engine, including drag-and-drop, scripting, and C++ coding. No great books, but some title like "Building games for teens" is OK. Not replicatable. Needs physics and calc, but no room in the program. Game linear algebra course is tuned carefully.

No Oregon BS / MS in game development. Might want to work on that. Q: Should we develop a single Oregon center for game development ed? A: Internships are a big part of a successful program, so it's important to find a place with good opportunities. There's a real shortage of gaming internship opportunities.

Q: Jim, what program at NSF? A: ATE. Kate Richter at UO is a contact person.

PSU: [Bryant York <york@cs.pdx.edu>] On NSF Advisory Committee reviewing ATE program. There is an opportunity here to do an ATE Regional Center around game development or other new technologies. NSF is trying to foster new Centers, and has resources to help. Bryant can use information from OCCC to take to NSF.

Q: Really, put together a joint NSF Game Development Center as an ATE? A: Absolutely. Winning an ATE would be quite feasible, much more so than an ERC. There's few engineering schools in Oregon, but many and large community colleges. This makes an ATE easier for us.

ATE was established in 1994, and the program has changed as technologies etc have. Computing and IT have dominated recent proposals and awards.

Bryant teaches a 300 course in AI in game design. Dark GDK platform, AI clients talking to FPS server. Goal is AI.

Best algorithms etc students are coming from community colleges; not clear how much is teaching vs student quality.

Mike Zyder's MS curriculum in game design etc.

[Bart Massey] We have some more hardcore AI and CS courses. Art Institute of Portland has a full program, which several institutions

are interested in cooperating with.

Bryant points out that directed-study things are useful here.

OSU: Game design course, full range of graphics and AI courses etc. Digital art, animation and motion capture through the New Media program. Applied CS option can be used for game programming focused degree.

UO: Put together a track aimed at industry, including digital arts minor. Industry review suggested that a focus on distributed systems is more important than video games. Suggest a dual major in math / CS. No interest in content development. Jim Bailey agrees in general, though BuzzMonkey wants 3DMax / Maia.

Discussion: Common Web Programming degree

Question: Should we have a common degree / curriculum in web development? What's the status of an effort to develop that?

An existing effort has fallen to lack of time and effort. Several institutions do have tracks or certificates. Some folks are interested, but leadership needs to be developed. Bart Massey offers to help with hooking up with Portland open source LAMP / Drupal / etc community.

Q: Much demand? A: Yes, with wide consensus. Clackamas points out that the endgame of such a track is typically independent consulting, so students should be actively prepared for this.

Chair / Hosting

Molly at OSU volunteered to chair / host this for the next year, to general acclamation. Next meeting will be Spring, tentative date 23 April 2010 at OSU.

Adjourned for lunch

***Meeting notes submitted by Bart Massey, PSU***

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