

GCPTA MEETING MINUTES

Holiday Inn Holidome – Lafayette, Louisiana

Date: Friday, April 29, 2005

Time: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Steve Ames opened the business meeting and welcomed everyone in attendance. There were 47 members and guests in attendance. Everyone introduced himself or herself.

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes – Minutes of the January 28, 2005 meeting were approved April 29, 2005.

Subcommittee on Rules/By-Laws – Mike Kukuk

The following members were approved by the steering committee:

Non-Voting

In District

Walter Tucker, Lamar Institute of Technology, Beaumont, TX

David Hirsch, Systran, Inc., Houston, TX

James Turlington, Lyondell-Citgo Refining LP, Houston, TX

Sharon Flanagan, Nunez Community College, Chalmette, LA

Out-of District

Cicely Jones, Coastal Training Technologies, Virginia Beach, VA

Welcome to the GCPTA—Steve Erickson

Steve Erickson talked about the Alliance and what it is trying to accomplish, i.e. provide sufficient qualified students to meet industries' needs in the future. Steve explained that more funds are needed in order to move the Alliance forward. He encouraged those who do not belong to the GCPTA to join and that we not only need their financial contribution, but their time and talents as well. He asked everyone to be sure to look at the posters posted on the walls for the various committees and encouraged them to sign up to participate on one or more of them if they were not already doing so.

Testimonial from BP Local Intern

Diana Grigsby from Baton Rouge Community College spoke about her experiences as an intern on the BP Pompano Offshore Oil Platform. BP offered Diana a full-time job in February 2005. She begins work on May 26, 2005.

Best Practice – Technician Internships—John Payne

John Payne with BP gave a presentation on Technician Internships. Some of the highlights of that presentation were:

- Internships provide on-the-job training, skill & knowledge enhancement, an opportunity for a real-world work experience and money for the students.
- Company benefits are:
 - ✓ Allows the company to invest in the community
 - ✓ Interns can be evaluated prior to hire
 - ✓ Contributes to lower recruiting and turnover costs
 - ✓ Renew and diversify the workforce
 - ✓ Interns are partially trained and can be productive to the organization sooner
 - ✓ Interns bring the latest theories, ideas, and classroom training to their job to share with incumbent employees
 - ✓ Interns re-energize the work force with their enthusiasm, positive attitudes and work ethic
- College Benefits are:
 - ✓ Strengthens college service to the community through job placement
 - ✓ Strengthens college tie-in with industry
 - ✓ Increases credibility of college with industry
 - ✓ Promotes other educational programs through increased enrollment

- ✓ Provides a means for the training of motivated, competent prospective employees
- Student Benefits are:
 - ✓ Opportunities for development
 - ✓ Provides practical, “hands-on” experience
 - ✓ Job-critical technical competencies
 - ✓ Direct connections with industry professionals
 - ✓ Demonstrates relationships between education and application of skills
 - ✓ Increases awareness of acceptable behavior in business
 - ✓ Provides college credit
 - ✓ \$\$\$\$\$\$
- Strategies for the Future
 - ✓ Identify regional gaps
 - ✓ Work with educational Centers of Excellence to connect with colleges
 - ✓ Partner with colleges to:
 - Build interest and implement targeted programs
 - Offer scholarships
 - Offer internships
 - ✓ Connect local operating centers with local colleges where it makes sense
 - ✓ Hire top performing interns from local areas
 - ✓ Relocate other top performers

CAPT Exit Assessment Development/Performance, Component Developed for MSSC Standards – Dr. Katherine Manley, NOCTI

Dr. Katherine Manley with the National Occupational Competency Testing Institute (NOCTI) made a presentation on the process that was used to develop the chemical and refining sectors’ exit assessment for CAPT.

Dr. Manley explained that technician/operator subject matter experts participated in a workshop and developed a blueprint for a national exit assessment. They rated the critical work functions and key activities that a chemical and refining process technician performs for importance, relevance and frequency. This then allowed the number of test questions that needed to be allocated to each key activity to be defined.

She further explained and provided a chart showing the close similarity between the groups’ rating and that of SME technicians from across the United States.

Additionally, a group of industry and education experts met for two days to develop questions based on the rating provided by the process technicians. The group developed 330 questions, which will be used to create three 100-question assessments.

She also explained how the questions would be analyzed and provided a chart to explain how NOCTI analyzes questions.

She also demonstrated what a performance component of an exit assessment looks like. She demonstrated a Manufacturing Skill Standards Competency interactive test.

The Oil and Gas Production exit assessment blueprint and question writing workshop will be conducted May 11-12, 2005.

The CAPT exit assessments will be piloted in August 2005 and will be available for testing the fall 2005 PTEC graduates.

Round Table Discussions

1. If you want the best of the best...start an internship program – John Payne, Facilitator

Discussion:

Liability – questions were raised about liability of the company regarding interns. BP treats interns as BP employees and provides them the same level of HSE training that regular employees receive.

Concerns were raised regarding 14/14 rotating shifts. Are we really preparing students for this lifestyle?

Discussed minimum requirements for internships. See CAPT Website for brochure describing these.

PTEC graduates appear to qualify on their first job considerable faster than those without the degree.

Interns can affect a culture in a company. New people bring in energy and share it with the incumbent workforce.

Offshore work is like having a second family. After all, you spend almost as much time offshore as onshore.

Concerns that many colleges and industries have dropped their internship programs. Internships are a great way to get “hands-on” experience to students.

We (the industry) need a better way to communicate the great jobs and pay.

Need a way to get the virtual world of E&P into the classroom.

2. PTEC Scholarships: How to do them – Stacey Chiasson, Facilitator

Discussion centered around how you administer a PTEC scholarship on a local level. We used the scholarship model from Ascension Parish that consists of 11 companies who pool their funds to create a \$45,000 scholarship pool every year and a small campaign that consists of one company that awards one scholarship.

These scholarship campaigns can be the cornerstone to raising PTEC enrollment in your local college if you use scholarship recipients as success stories in local papers. This raises awareness of the industry need, type of students who can be successful, and the program availability.

Items to consider:

- Consistent marketing campaign. Scholarship application and marketing materials should look alike.
- Consider using your local college website to administer the application
- Politically, you may need an objective third party to screen applicants
- Use the scholarship campaign to create general awareness about PTEC. (Example: morning television, posters in the grocery store, radio spots, etc.)
- Encourage industry members to build a consortium in order to administer more scholarships. This creates a bigger media buzz.

3. Is your PTEC program the best it can be? – Ed Stiles, Dorothy Ortego, Facilitators

Session started with a review of the requirements to be an endorsed college of the GCPTA. The main topic of discussion was the audit and the criteria for successfully completing an audit under GCPTA requirements. We next reviewed two different audit packages, the Louisiana PTEC audit and the San Jacinto audit. We discussed the purpose of the audit; the requirements and how the information that comes from an audit can be utilized. Each member attending was given a copy of each of the audit tools, and post meeting a blank copy was emailed to them so that they had it electronically as well. Questions from the attending group were answered and discussed.

4. How can an Exit Assessment save you time and money? – Mike Kukuk, Facilitator

Opening Comments

Our purpose is to discuss and share positives and negatives surrounding the Exit Assessment that is being created for Process Technology graduates. If anyone has questions concerning the assessment, this would be a good time to ask and possible spark some discussion in a specific area.

Discussion

This assessment would be similar to many other post-graduate tests. Nurses and lawyers are good examples of professions where testing follows the completion of the degree program. The assessment should indicate retention by the students and gaps in the programs.

Q – What do we tell the students who feel like the test put them at an unfair disadvantage compared with graduates in the past who did not have to test?

A – A positive spin can be placed on this. A high score or passing grade on the assessment could be an advantage over someone who has not tested. A national credential should add portability to the resume. Industry will decide the value of having passed the assessment.

Q – Can past graduates take the assessment?

A – Yes, but it won't be free. There will be a fee associated with the test.

Comment – The test is being designed for PTEC graduates only. If anyone else is allowed to test, the data becomes skewed and will not serve at least one of the purposes for testing.

One purpose for the testing is to identify gaps in the programs at the different participating colleges. Testing following graduation, without the benefit of further learning on the job or through other means, should provide a more accurate measure of the programs.

Other spin-off testing may become available for assessing incumbents, both graduates and Non-graduates.

Q – Where will the test be administered?

A – At this point, 3rd party testing is being evaluated. The tests will not be available from the colleges. Test security is a major issue where this is concerned.

Q – What about the fear of failing the test?

A – The test is not required. Graduates do not have to test if they are afraid of failing.

Comment – Industry has been the group pushing for the assessment. The colleges may not require the testing but industry may use it in the selection process.

Q – What about the performance component?

Comments – Industry's most common feedback is that the program needs more hands-on. The graduates know but cannot "do". The performance part of the assessment should help identify gaps in this area and lead to improvements in what the PTEC graduates are able to do when they enter the workforce.

Q – Will there be a requirement that schools be involved or require graduates to test?

A – The testing is being driven by industry. We don't know at this point what the colleges' involvement will be.

Q – How about the GCPTA? Who in the organization will be involved?

A – Again, I'm not sure there is an answer for that. It could become something that the Standards and Quality Committee deals with, not unlike the auditing that is required for Endorsed Colleges.

Comment – It will be important for industry to understand and place value on the assessment. Otherwise, there is no incentive for the student to take the test. Nor is there an incentive for a college to use the data to improve the program and improve the outcomes.

5. Does the PTEC degree carry weight with industry? – Martha McKinley, Facilitator

Concerns:

- Some courses work well on line (ex: Quality), others do not (ex: Instrumentation)
- Courses need to be hybrid – some lab and some on line work
- On line courses are not for every student (different learning styles – visual as opposed to listening)
- Materials must be good and the assignments realistic
- Courses are written using different platforms (Blackboard, WebCT) and require the student to know how to access both

- Testing issues surround an on line course due to the fact the subject can have the course materials present while testing

Solutions:

- Instructors need to be diligent, patient, and to communicate well
- Make tests timed
- Only able to view one test question at a time
- Assignments should be weighted as part of the course grade
- Discussion time spent should be weighted as part of the course grade

Lab (interactive) work in courses

Concerns:

- Chemical discipline needs more interactive labs than the exploration and production discipline
- Labs need to be intertwined with lecture periods
- Labs need equipment donations
 - ✓ Old equipment needs to be decontaminated
 - ✓ Incumbent worker training could encourage companies to donate equipment
 - ✓ Vendors could provide new equipment
- Students working on a live unit could damage the equipment – typically is hard to replace
- It was expressed that equipment had been thrown away due to its location – keep in a safe place

Solutions:

- Must balance the safety issue with hands on work (students can learn more when the unit is fluctuating)
- Co-ops help with hands on learning

Committee on Curriculum and Education – Martha McKinley

Martha McKinley thanked all of the volunteers who serve on the Committee on Curriculum and Education for their commitment and dedication. Serving on this committee requires members to travel to the meeting location where the meetings last all day.

CAPT Update – Joanna Kile

Joanna Kile provided the following update of CAPT activities:

Skill Standards

- The Pharmaceutical Process Technician work-oriented information has been collected at a number of companies in Michigan and Puerto Rico. Next round is scheduled for New Jersey in May.

Textbooks

- The Introduction to Process Technology textbook is under development. We need industry and education subject matter expert reviewers for the following chapters:
 - ✓ Electricity and Motors (Industry only)
 - ✓ Furnaces (Industry only)
 - ✓ Your Career as a Process Technician (Industry only)
 - ✓ Boilers (Both Industry and Education)
 - ✓ Process Utilities (Industry only)
 - ✓ Process Auxiliaries (Industry only)
 - ✓ Compressors (Education only)
 - ✓ Steam Turbines (Education only)

Other Curriculum

- An RFP is out for international sales agents for the CAPT/GCPTA curricular materials.

Professional Development Opportunities

- BP Oil and Gas Institute, Alaska – 8 Faculty Accepted: Texas (2), Louisiana (3) and Mississippi (1)
- Pulp and Paper Institute, Alabama – June 13-17, 2005 – Applications accepted until April 30, 2005
- 15 Faculty Internships: Texas (5) and Louisiana (3)
- GCPTA has two-day workshops scheduled at:

- ✓ College of the Mainland – COM PTEC Unit Operations (Glycol Unit Operation), June 23-24
- ✓ Houston Community College – Advancements in Process Technology Education, May 12-13
- ✓ McNeese State University – Recruitment Strategies for Women in Technical Fields, May 23-24

Critical Issues and Best Practices Conference

- October 19 – 21, 2005 in Houston, Texas
- Faculty scholarships will be available
- Call for proposals will be sent via e-mail
- Interested in planning the pre-conference agenda? Please contact Merv at mtreigle@com.edu
- If you know of a company that would like to exhibit, please provide company contact information to Merv.

Scholarships

- Sponsored by BP (7), Producers Assistance Corporation (4) and Shell (7)
- 18 to be awarded within next 2 weeks

Virtual Chemical Plant

- 5th – 8th grade math and science activities are now available at www.capttech.org/vcp.htm.
- Career Awareness workshops (including Virtual Chemical Plant information) planned in Alaska and Bismarck with waiting lists.

Program Survey

- Did you know that there are 3585 students in Process Technology?
- Did you know that we had 727 students graduate with an AAS degree in Process Technology during the 2003-2004 academic year?
- Did you know that Process Technology programs grew from 17 programs in 1999 to 36 programs in 2004?
- The Trends in Education Program survey will be available in late May.

NSF Continuation Grant for CAPT Support

- Grant proposal covers September 2005 – August 2009
- Maximum funding of \$3 million

For further information...

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College Advisory Reports

1. **Texas State Technical University – Bobby Smith** reported the following:

- 5 students enrolled
- 2 expected graduates
- 2 students in Interns/Coops
- 1 student on scholarship

Comments:

Two SteP institutes, one for females and one for males, will be held in early June. The preliminary response from area schools has been very positive.

- Advisory Committee Meetings:
 Met January 27, 2005
 Scheduled to meet April 28, 2005
 Hot Topics:

1. The SteP Institute to be held in June.
 2. Improvements to the Co-op program. These improvements include better feedback on work and classroom performance, better definition of job tasks covered and increased number of co-op students.
2. **Lee College – Charles Thomas** reported the following:
- 400 students enrolled
 - 40 expected graduates
 - 4 students on scholarships
 - Student Organization Activities:
Process Technology student association PTSA working with job placement and Amanda Summers.
 - High School PTEch Programs:
15 students participating
2 high schools participating
Comments:
Sterling and Lee High school students have completed “Intro to Process Technology” (FALL semester) and are in “Safety, Health, and Environment 1.”
 - New Equipment:
April 6, 2005 TDC-3000 software installation by ATR. This will support the debutanizer simulator, the Lee College Multi-Process Plant, and several attached courses.
 - Advisory Committee Meetings:
Met February, 2005
Scheduled to meet April, 2005
Hot Topics:
Quality Audit & Safety Grants & natural Science/PTEC grants
3. **Montana State University – Bob Robertus** reported the following:
- 32 students enrolled
 - 12 expected graduates in December 2005
 - 2 students in Interns/Coops
 - 2 students on Scholarships
 - Comments:
As a trial experiment ExxonMobil has hired two students for the summer as interns. They will start on the “rack and progress through several units of the refinery being paid as seasonal extras. If the outcome is positive, ExxonMobil plans to continue the program in future years.
 - Student Organization Activities:
We have no Student Organization...too little interest because most students work eves.
 - High School PTEch Programs:
We still have no high school PTEch program
 - New Equipment:
Advanced Process Control Trainer complete with Delta V control software from Design Assistance Corporation has arrived and is being tested. It was purchased with Department of Education grant money.
 - Advisory Committee Meetings:
Met April 12, 2005
Scheduled to meet October, 2005
Hot Topics:
 - ♦ Recruiting Native Americans
 - ♦ Power Plant Curriculum
 - ♦ Getting more companies on Advisory Board
 - New Best Practice:
Lab space was remodeled to house new laboratory equipment. Process has been completed.
 - Upcoming Events:
Trips to tribal colleges to recruit more Native Americans. Several trips are planned during summer and fall.
4. **Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College – Tommie Broome** reported the following:

- 15 students enrolled
- 4 expected graduates
- ?? students in Interns/Coops
- ?? students on scholarships
- Comments:

We are working with ChevronTexaco-Pascagoula Refinery and Southern Company -Mississippi Power to get some of the students in as summer interns. Both Industry Partners have committed to offering positions. Offers should be final by meeting time. BP is coming to our campus on April 7&8 to conduct interviews for intern positions.
- Student Organization Activities:

Students are encouraged to join Skills USA
- New Equipment:

DuPont has recently donated a couple of centrifugal pumps. ChevronTexaco has been very generous with man-hours. Several of their employees are actively involved with a Project class to get our lab in working order.
- Advisory Committee Meetings:

Scheduled to meet April 7, 2005

Hot Topics:

Informal meetings with ChevronTexaco, Mississippi Power and DuPont have been held to work out the details for the summer internships. Two were held here on campus and one is scheduled at Pascagoula ChevronTexaco Refinery for Tuesday, May 3, 2005 9:00 AM-11:00 AM. I am encouraging my Advisory Team to become more active and take the lead in driving this program. Looks like it is working.
- Upcoming Events:

Formal Advisory Team Meeting April 7, 2005

5. **Baton Rouge Community College – Dr. Michael Gunter** reported the following:

- 220 students enrolled
- 36 expected graduates
- 15 students in Interns/Coops
- 63 students on scholarships
- Comments:

The American Chemical Society will honor 18 of our students with a certificate of accomplishment for being in the top 25% of their class in a Chemical Technology curriculum. In addition, we have **15** interns working with industry in the field.
- High School PTEch Programs:

Unknown number of students participating
2 high schools participating

Comments:

Two area high schools, Brusly High School and Port Allen High School are offering PTEC 101 to their students.
- New Equipment:

BRCC will purchase equipment to supplement the Fluids course during the next few months.
- Advisory Committee Meetings:

Met March 27, 2004
Scheduled to meet April 28, 2005

Hot Topics:

We held a Career Fair at BRCC this month. Included at the fair were representatives from Shell Chemical (Jerry Graves), ChevronPhillips (Toby Keller), and GCPTA (Steve Erickson).
- New Best Practice:

Instructors at BRCC have teamed up with the Academic Learning Center on campus to develop Job Readiness training for all PTEC students. Students are required to complete job readiness training prior to being approved for an internship. The job readiness preparation includes having their resume reviewed and approved by Jeanne Stacey in the Academic Learning Center. Students then take practice tests similar to those given in industry stressing mechanical aptitude, spatial relations, etc. Finally, students have a mock board interview to prepare them for the types of interview questions asked during the hiring process. Students have been very successful in obtaining great jobs due to this preparation.

- Upcoming Events:
The Education Committee of the La. State PTEC Advisory Board is working on changing the Trigonometry requirement to a technical math that would include Algebra/Trig.

6. **Alvin Community College – Mark Demark** reported the following:

- 100 students enrolled
- 30 expected graduates
- 0 students in Interns/Coops
- 5 students on scholarships
Comments:
Student scholarships provided by grants from BP, Lubrizol, and ACC. We are trying to revive Oil & Gas Production by getting students interested in this aspect of Process Technology.
- High School PTech Programs:
No students participating
No high schools participating
Comments:
Working with the Shell Grant to enhance our TechPrep program. ACC will conduct a 2-day Process Technology Forum May 11-12, 2005. Herb Myers is the coordinator (hmyers@alvincollege.edu). Twenty students and their teachers and counselors from four area high schools will attend.
- New Equipment:
Innovene (ex BP) has donated a student trainer piping manifold. This manifold, called the Caserta Piping Training Manifold, measures 97" x 40" and starts with 4" flanged piping, valves, gaskets, reducers, tees, relief valve, and ends with threaded union, strainer, and steam trap $\frac{3}{4}$ "
For details see our web site.
- Advisory Committee Meetings:
Met March 30, 2005
Scheduled to meet June 8, 2005
Hot Topics:
New members Rachell Gold (Solutia) and Mike Connell (Equistar). New adjunct instructors Ted Sharp (retired Citgo) and Herb Myers (retired Kellogg, Brown & Root-Halliburton). Developing recruitment video for Process Technology.
- Upcoming Events:
May 11-12, 2005: Process Technology Forum area high school students/teachers/counselors
July 2005: Process Technology Night
Process Technology Open House in conjunction with ACC Open House

7. **Lamar Institute of Technology — Walter Tucker & Harry Wood** reported the following:

- 261 students enrolled
- 32 expected graduates
- 12 students in Interns/Coops
- 29 students on scholarships
Comments:
The following donations were made by industry: ExxonMobil \$35,000 for distillation unit maintenance and scholarships; BridgestoneFirestone \$3,000 PT scholarships; DuPont Sabine River Works of Orange \$1,500 PT scholarships; BASF Port Arthur \$5,000 PT scholarships. We also had 25 students take part in Job Shadowing and 40 students participated in Project Interview.
- Student Organization Activities:
The OPT club took fieldtrips to TOTAL and ExxonMobil
- High School PTech Programs:
8 students participating
1 high school participating
- New Equipment:
Plans are being worked on to obtain a distillation trainer from Premcor in Port Arthur.
- Advisory Committee Meetings:
Met February 24, 2005
Scheduled to Meet April 28, 2005

Hot Topics:

19 students are participating in 40 hr. run from 6:00 am April 28, 2005 to 10:00 pm April 29.

- New Best Practice:
Ethics workshops were conducted by Yolanda Avery.
- Upcoming Events:
Lamar Institute of Technology will be hosting the SteP program June 13-17, 2005.

8. **McNeese State University – Dorothy Ortego** reported the following:

- 79 students enrolled
- 8 expected graduates
- 5 students in Interns/Coops
- 3 students on scholarships
Comments:
Three students on Process scholarships—all in AS program.
Five students in BS program are completing internships.
Anticipate 4 AS and 4 BS graduates.
One AS student offered BP summer internship.
- Student Organization Activities:
No organization—do have open house on May 3 inviting past, current, and prospective students (and family).
- High School PTEch Programs:
No students participating
No high schools participating
Comments:
State PTEC coordinator working with local school board and advisory board to start a program next year.
- New Equipment:
Temperature Control Unit received, working on installation
- Advisory Committee Meetings:
Met April 27, 2005
Scheduled to meet May 25, 2005
Hot Topics:
Recruiting and public awareness campaigns
- New Best Practice:
Mock interviews conducted on April 12—thanks to PPG, Citgo, Conoco, Air Products, and Firestone for providing interviewers
Planning PTEC Camp Just for Girls for summer
McNeese awarded 3 one-week Gear Up camps for grade 7-9 students for summer—D. Ortego participating, students will spend 4 hours of the week exploring technology
- Upcoming Events:
Recruiting Workshop—May 23 & 24 at McNeese—see CAPT website for details

9. **SOWELA Technical Community College – Linton Lecompte** reported the following:

- About 160 students enrolled
- About 13 expected graduates
- 1 student in Interns/Coops
- 1 student on scholarship
Comments:
We have a student that was selected by British Petroleum to spend the summer in the field of Exploration/Production.
Linton Lecompte is scheduled to spend a week aboard a platform with British Petroleum.
Also, Linton Lecompte is scheduled to make the Exploration/Production workshop in Alaska this summer.
- Student Organization Activities:
We are currently going through a campaign/election of officers for the Student Government Association. We expect PTEC to win two positions.
- High School PTEch Programs:
0 students participating

0 high schools participating

Comments:

We will be conducting a Girls Summer Camp in conjunction with McNeese.

Also, at this time, we have an all out effort to recruit high school seniors/grads. Career Builders (with the help of local industry and education) is coordinating the efforts.

- New Equipment:

No new equipment over last six months

- Advisory Committee Meetings:

Met March 30, 2005

Scheduled to meet April 27, 2005

Hot Topics:

Forklift and Aerial lift training

Summer camp for young ladies

- New Best Practice:

We've just completed another round of Mock Interviews, facilitated by our local industry and co-ordinated by Professor D. Ortego of McNeese State University.

10. **Louisiana Technical College-Ascension Campus – Cleve Marchand** reported the following:

- 18 students enrolled

- 0 expected graduates

- 0 students in Interns/Coops

- 1 student on scholarship

Comments:

We are working on a state committee on the internship course and a state manual for the internship course.

- Student Organization Activities:

SGA—At the State Education Committee we have discussed VICA—SkillsUSA

- High School PTECH Programs:

19 students participating

1 high school participating

Comments:

In Ascension Parish, one high school has been designated as the Technical Academy. P-Tech, Industrial Instrumentation, and other occupations will come under this academy.

- New Equipment:

Valve cut-aways from funds received from Shell Chemical-Geismar

\$60,000 Carl Perkins Leadership Grant for “Glass Labs” simulation and computers

- Advisory Committee Meetings:

Met April 5, 2005

Scheduled to meet May, 2005

Hot Topics:

Number of students

Hiring a full-time instructor

Backing from the state and industry

- New Best Practices:

Working with local area high school guidance counselors and administrators about the P-Tech program.

- Upcoming Events:

Assigning sections to Advisory Board members and school staff from the Audit findings.

11. **College of the Mainland – Mike Cobb & Jerry Duncan** reported the following:

- 350 students enrolled

- 40 expected graduates

- 8 students in Interns/Coops

Comments:

Current plans for interns are 6 in the summer and 6 in the fall, all going to BP

- Student Organization Activities:

A new student organization has been formed—Association of Future Process Technologists.

The organization has elected officers and sponsored a plant trip to Valero.

- **New Equipment:**
Valero has donated 2 – 2”, 2 – 4”, and 2 – 6” new valves to the program. They will be used in our new valve manifold. We have placed a large order for the new sugar water reactor. The base is built and the parts are starting to arrive.
- **Advisory Committee Meetings:**
Met April 5, 2005
Hot Topics:
The catalog has been changed to reflect the incorporation of the Hazmut course into the SHE course. A requirement has been added to require at least a C in all classes in order to receive the PTEC degree.
- **Upcoming Events:**
The 40 hour run is scheduled 5/5/05. A large campus wide COM open house is scheduled for 4/28/05. PTEC night will be incorporated into the open house.

12. **Del Mar College – Denise Rector** reported the following:

- 70 students enrolled
 - 5 expected graduates
 - 2 students in Interns/Coops
 - 0 students on scholarships
- Comments:**
In March, Lyondell Equistar Human Resources Department conducted a “hiring process and interview practice” session for our students. It was a very informative session and students were told the “do’s and don’ts” of successful interviewing.
- **New Equipment:**
None at this time
 - **Advisory Committee Meetings:**
Met April 12, 2005
Scheduled to meet July—date TBA
Hot Topics:
We are in the process of conducting the first program audit. We have found areas that need improvements, but we have also found many positives. We will meet as necessary to complete the audit.
 - **Upcoming Events:**
South Texas Career Expo on April 28—1500 to 2000 students from across South Texas will attend this event.

13. **Wharton County Junior College – Wayne Stephens** reported the following:

- 35 students enrolled
 - 2 students in Interns/Coops
 - 1 student on scholarship
- Comments:**
H. B. Zachary, the main contractor at Equistar Chemical, Bay City, TX, recently put into place an Operator Internship Program, for full time employment, to train in all Equistar Operations, and work directly under Equistar Supervision. Two of our students, one freshman and one sophomore were chosen and started work in the program in April 2005. They work 40 per hours per week and are able to attend and complete the PTAC program courses. One of our students in his last semester has gone the whole year on a CAPT scholarship.
- **New Equipment:**
A new portable flow loop and level loop were delivered in March 2005, built by Patrick Reichel, Emergency Consultants and Plant Logistics, and purchased with partner monies from Equistar, Nalco and Celanese. We are waiting delivery of the cascade loop. These have proven to be excellent teaching aides and are self-contained with the only requirements being an extension cord and a regular air hook-up. They are portable and all built in space saving cabinets with both electronic and pneumatic controls. The flow loop has a see-through control valve and both have clear plastic lines so that students can see the movement of liquid through the loops. The Taylor electronic controllers allow for switching between manual and automatic. (They were modeled after the ones at Brazosport College)
 - **Advisory Committee Meetings:**

Met July 2004

Scheduled to meet May 2005

Hot Topics:

Phase two of Program Goals

- New Best Practice:
Continued simulation of control room activities, including visitor station, role assignment (safety, supervision, and operations), using hard hats, goggles, glasses and Tyvek coveralls, marking off of skid unit, safety signs, etc. Also, we just added an intercom system between outside operators and board, and the use of call letters and numbers (JC-01 is base, etc.). Aim is to eventually have our computer lab appearing as a real control room.
- Upcoming Events:
Bay City Community Development, one of our partners, is working ardently with both WCJC and Bay City Independent School District for a new campus located near the new high school.

New Business

Steve Ames invited those at the meeting who are not members of the GCPTA to join.

The next meeting will be held at Lamar Institute of Technology in Beaumont, Texas on July 29, 2005.

Alliance Website

- Website www.processtech.org is fully active and maintained by Bob Kosar of Grand Isle Group Information Delivery Specialists. If your school or company has a Website and it is not accessible by just a click, contact the Webmaster by e-mail bobkosar@hal-pc.org.
- Center for the Advancement of Process Technology (CAPT) Website www.capttech.org.
- Contact the GCPTA at gcpta@msn.com.

Future GCPTA Meetings

- Friday, July 29, 2005
- Friday, November 11, 2005

*****Other Events*****

*(CAPT) Critical Issues & Best Practices Conference
South Shore Harbour Resort and Conference Center
October 19, 20, 21, 2005
October 19 Training and Development Pre-Conference
October 20 & October 21 Critical Issues and Best Practices Conference*

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Huckeba, Secretary
Gulf Coast Process Technology Alliance

WH/at