

GIS-UAS-SUR- Advisory Committee Minutes, Spring 2024

Date: Wednesday, January 17, 2024

Number of Attendees: 15

Called to order: 5:07 pm

Adjourned: 6:26 pm

Chairperson: Tami Wiggins

Recorder: Jennifer Woods

Location: ATC 108 and Zoom

Members present from industry: Mike Casman, Vectors; Serri Grube, Valley HS; George Kerr, APS; Ethan Lacher, KA Aerial Surveys; Melodee Saiz, APS; Zachary Taraschi, Souder Miller; Tami Wiggins, Blue Skies Consulting (retired)

Members present from CNM: John Beltran, GIS Instructor; Morgan Cartwright, Instructional Tech; Nate Geoffrion, UAS Instructor; Eric Ghahate, CM Instructor, Design Chair; Sharon Gordon Moffett, Interim Dean; Jackie Lamoureux, Interim Assoc. Dean; Ashley Prelo, WCS Outreach Manager; Jennifer Woods, Academic Tech Assistant

Next scheduled meeting: To be decided for fall 2024

I. Welcome/Introductions: Tami started the meeting and everyone introduced themselves.

II. Minutes: Minutes from the spring 2024 meeting approved as written.

III. Reports:

- 1. College Updates:** Sharon reported that: The new VP of Education and Learning has joined CNM. This spring we will start the search for a new permanent dean and then two associate deans for STA. The 30-day State Legislature has convened and CNM will be presenting budget issues, and CNM Day is Thursday February 8. January 19 President Tracy Hartzler will be presenting on the State of the College. This will also include this year's Distinguished Faculty and staff award winners. The college-wide program review (CIPR) is now in progress. We strive to continuously improve our program offerings, so we can increase our number of graduates. Many of our students are hired before they finish coursework. In the past, this was considered a bad thing, but the attitude is now changing, because we are here to help students on their career path. In the spring, we will be hosting an information event at the ATC in order to increase awareness of our programs. We have a vibrant dual credit program with secondary and post-secondary schools, which is mandatory for schools that receive Perkins funding. Nate said that he has two DC students in one of his flight classes. These students are working to transition into New Mexico Tech for further studies.

College Day is March 8, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm at Main Campus. The third Women in Trades Summit is on March 29, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at Smith Brasher Hall. Advisory members are welcome to attend and set up an information table at this event and/or College Day. April 11-13 is the SkillsUSA State competition, which is held here at CNM. Graduation is scheduled for Saturday May 4. Sharon and Jackie can send information for anyone interested in coming to any of our college events.

We are having difficulty hiring HVAC instructors. If anyone knows someone who can teach, please contact Jackie Lamoureux at jlamoureux@cnm.edu.

- 2. Enrollment updates:** Jackie reported that: Spring enrollment for the whole college is lower than the fall term. Enrollment in STA this term is 2,983. Fill rates are up about 10% over last spring term. Graduation numbers: In



School of Skilled Trades & Arts

GIS, there were three graduates with **AAS** degree, and five received a Certificate. In **UAS**, twenty-one received the Fundamentals certificate, and six certificates for the complete program (Two-term).

- 3. Equipment:** John said that we received a new Mavic 3 drone, which will help with remote sensing with UAS. The new Perkins equipment request cycle is coming up soon. For the 2025 fiscal year, we will probably have \$1.5 million for the CTE programs at the entire college. Perkins money allows us to provide students with the most up-to-date equipment so they can be ready for their employers.

IV. Old Business – We have been approved for the curriculum changes in GIS and UAS, which will be implemented in the fall of 2024. Catalog changes should appear sometime in late July. We received excellent feedback from our advisory members at the last meeting, which helped to make our case for curriculum changes. John discussed the curriculum changes below in New Business.

V. New Business: Ashley reported on the WCS –The department of Workforce and Community Success is available to employers who would like to connect with students and for students to find jobs. The WCS aids employers in setting up internships, apprenticeships, job shadowing. Mentorships and learning outcomes are discussed with the employers. Student persistence and work-based learning are priorities at the college. There are funding sources available for cost – sharing. At the end of this month there is an internship fair. Ashley can be contacted at aprelo@cnm.edu.

John discussed the curriculum changes in UAS and GIS. The changes that we talked about in the last meeting have been implemented. The **UAS** certificate is now down to 27 credits. In **GIS**, the certificate went from 35 credits to 21 credits, which is more in line with national standards for GIS certifications. Each term has been trimmed down. For the AAS degree, there were additional cuts to each term, and now stands at 61 credits. Many of our classes are on-line or hybrid, so it is easier for students to attend.

He mentioned a talk on Monday evening at SB Hall about ESRI, Geography and GIS. Everyone is welcome to attend and bring students.

Jackie announced that we need a space for flying drones. If anyone knows of a place we could use, please let Jackie know. (email above)

VI. Reports from Industry Members: Sharon asked the group: Who is our target audience? What can CNM do to increase enrollment in GIS and UAS?

Serri G. said that faculty visits to the schools are impactful for the students. This is a great way to inspire interest in HS students. Industry partners would be welcomed as well. She was impressed when John showed up at school with a drone.

George K. said that APS counselors are under new leadership. There will be an increase in dual credit classes at APS. He provided information about the Skills2Trades show coming up on 3/18/2024. The contact to register for the event is - youngbloodworker@gmail.com. All advisory members are welcome to attend.

Ethan commented that this is a slow time of the year for his business. The Vexcel company is developing a new hybrid sensor, which he will eventually get.

George K is increasing internships at APS.

Melodee S. said that the HS students she is placing into internships are making \$15 an hour, and really honing their soft skills and resume building.

Mike C. has some thoughts about our target audience. His company provides equipment under the umbrella of Trimble. He said everyone has issues with man power. He appreciates our efforts to streamline our curriculum. His ideal hire should be tech savvy, and happy to be outside. He thinks targeting fringe communities, such as Indian tribes, is the thing to do. These would be people who are trying to expand their knowledge base.

He also said that LiDAR systems are growing in popularity. There are no longer surveying “crews”; now, one person is a surveyor and needs to have a variety of skills

VII. Adjournment: 6:26 pm