

CIS/CSC/CAT Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date and Time: 3-17-23 9am

Meeting Location: ATEC-118

Attendees (Name, Title, Company/Organization):

Alfonso Anaya, CFO, Kids That Code

Aaron Campbell, CFO, SolvedIT LLC.

John Coverdale, Norco College

James Finley, Norco College

Stacy Hartfiel, Bellevue University, Menifee Valley Chamber of Commerce Advisory Board

Avi Nair, Industry Sector Manager, ICT & Digital Media, SBCCD/IEDRC

Jose Navarrete, CFO, Kids That Code

Cameron Perry, Kids That Code

Judy Perry, Norco College

Zainab Qasemi, United States Air Force

Nicole Roby, Employment Development Department (EDD) Workforce Services

Jessiah Ruiz, Norco College

Keri Then, RCCD Board Trustee

This is a summary of an asynchronous Advisory Meeting held with the purpose of gaining industry insight and advice on the new CIS, CSC and CAT programs proposed by Norco College. Each meeting is unique and the conversation flows in different directions due to the expertise of those present. What follows are the highlights of the meeting.

1. Meeting began at 9:15am
2. Welcome and Faculty Introductions led by John Coverdale
3. James Finley and Jessiah Ruiz gave brief overview of Norco's CIS programs.
 - a. New Programs
 - i. Data Science
 - ii. Data Analytics
 - iii. New methodology – offering hybrid and online sections which demonstrate high success rate.
 - iv. CIS does not offer Face-to-Face classes.
 - v. CIS class offerings are efficient.
 - b. John Coverdale also gave brief overview of [Academic Programs in Computer Information Systems & Computer Science](#)
 - i. C++ Programming Certificate

- ii. Computer Programming Certificate
- iii. Java Programming Certificate

4. Attendee Introductions

- a. Avi Nair – Industry Sector Manager, ICT & Digital Media, SBCCD/IEDRC
- b. Aaron Campbell - Small business owner, SolvedIT
- c. Keri Then - RCCD Board Trustee
- d. Cameron Perry - former Norco College Student, Kids That Code
- e. Jose Navarrete - teaches finance at Cal State San Bernardino, Kids That Code
- f. Alfonso Anaya - CFO, Kids That Code - asked if Python has been integrated in our courses.
 - i. James Finley said yes, but that it's been a slow-moving process.
- g. Stacy Hartfiel - Bellevue University, Cerro Coso Community College Advisory Board, Menifee Valley Chamber of Commerce Advisory Board – looking to bridge pathways between education and training to get into the field quicker.
- h. Nicole Roby – Site Manager with EDD specializing in workforce services – looking for ways and ideas to get the unemployed back into the workforce.
- i. Zainab Qasemi - US Airforce – looking for Computer Science Majors – they need leaders with 4-year degrees.
 - i. John Coverdale asked how we could better serve folks coming out of the Airforce.
 - ii. Zainab said she could assist in disseminating Norco College's CIS Program information to local Airforce branches.
 - iii. Airforce is looking for folks that can innovate and streamline their existing databases and systems.
- j. Judy Perry – Norco College Faculty
 - i. Gave brief overview of what she teaches.

5. Q&A

- a. What type of certifications should Norco be looking into (Coverdale)?
 - i. Stacy said she often looks at Cybersafe.org to see how each career pathway aligns with certifications in the industry and how many jobs are available. She often refers students to that website to verify what kind of education and certification is being asked for specific jobs, such as CISSP, Network+, Security+, and Linux.
 - ii. Keri echoed Stacy and added that students need to understand data. Coverdale said we could infuse fundamentals in introductory classes as they enter the field.
 - iii. Stacy said there is a need for Computer Science folks that can not only gather the information but also know how to present it to the rest of the team. To be successful students need to be comfortable presenting the data, and be able to speak to it, not just do it.

- iv. Jessiah said presentational and team aspects are incorporated into classes.
- b. Is _____ being looked at in Norco College (Stacy)?
 - i. John said it is not, but it is at RCC. The department is trying not to undermine and avoid duplication.
- c. Which direction should our programs lean towards? What specific technologies versus general principles (Finley)?
 - i. Aaron Campbell – students need critical thinking to connect what they've learned to what they'll be doing.
 - ii. Keri Then – the future is digital ledgers. Students must have exposure to fundamentals starting with Computer Science on what digital ledgers and blockchain look like.
- d. What areas of interest would the committee like to see (Ruiz)?
 - i. Aaron – offer students basic introduction on specialized data (like engineering)
 - ii. Stacy – students need exposure to all different pathways and need critical thinking aspect to determine which is the best pathway for their career of choice. They also need exposure through internships and apprenticeships so that they are job ready.
- e. How are students exposed to real world experience here at Norco College (Aaron Campbell)?
 - i. Not profoundly, there is a challenge in creating/manufacturing data that feels real and relevant to the students.
- f. Can a general person that knows nothing about CIS jump straight into CIS classes here at Norco College (Nicole Roby)?
 - i. James Finley – absolutely
- g. What Soft Skills need to be included in CIS Curriculum (Coverdale)?
 - i. Zainab – how to give constructive criticism.
 - ii. Stacy – collaboration, professionalism, know the value of your work
 - iii. Alfonso – responsibility and punctuality
 - iv. Jose – Foster entrepreneurial skills
 - v. Aaron – communication skills, be able to sell your product, delivery.
- 6. Closing remarks
 - i. Norco faculty enjoy helping students from all backgrounds and see them succeed in CIS programs.
 - ii. Norco faculty will look at CIS-2 and CIS-21
- 7. Advisory Adjournment: 10:17am