

Howard Community College Commission on the Future

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Friday, November 11, 2022

Innovation Task Force – Meeting Notes

The task force will consider the explosion of new technologies and their applications and how best to use those resources in meeting student and stakeholder educational, support, and communication needs. It will further address the generational challenges of effectively utilizing technology

Task Force Prompt Questions:

1. How can we acquire the latest technology?
2. How can HCC use new technologies, social networks, mobile apps, etc. to educate students, deliver services in an e-format, improve communication with students and stakeholders, and link services and track the effectiveness of those services?
3. How can HCC best address generational differences of students and stakeholders regarding the use of technology?

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| How can we acquire the latest technology? | Discussion Items | Outcomes |
| Technology Specific Ideas | * Hard to answer questions when we don’t know the technology base.   + Perhaps provide a comprehensive list of technology that we already own   + What challenges do we feel as a college?     - List from every department of top 3 pain points, or what are the problem that need to be fixed and maybe we could come up with a list of technologies.      * Asset Management Inventory   + Dana Kerr would like to take students from HCC and work with a vendor partner. Integrate students with it. Good ROI     - It is really data governance     - Where is the school headed in its IT enterprise architecture?     - Create standards for the architecture      * + DocuSign     - Has seen many procurements for DocuSign, especially with the state of MD   + The college is already using this technology * State of MD CATZ hardware/software contract | The question is not about a specific type of technology. More about how to acquire and implement the technology. Also, what does the HCC staff/administration need from technology. |
| Outreach to the business community by the college - large companies in the Howard County arena | * Ask business to partner with HCC   + Are there partnerships within the private industry groups in HoCo such as Lockheed and Northrup Grumman?     - Go out to those businesses and ask what time of employees are needed and what skillsets that are needed. This is a good way to get companies engaged.      * + Innovation     - Get community partners to pilot donations before we go in and allocate true dollars     - Get companies to serve on an innovation committee at the college     - UB has an innovation lab, and someone has given money     - Reach out to Ron Gula how can you help us to get people that Duane and Dana need     - Intertwine innovation and external partnerships     - Include Innovation AVP at next meeting      * Host a hackathon   + Get an organization to host a hackathon and then leave some equipment for technology   + Getting students to be adopters of their technology may be the way for others to open new technologies.      * + Have an apprenticeship program where we have companies that have students that attend.     - Likes idea of apprenticeships but it has to be the right skillset and expectations.       * All those companies have robust internships with the 4-year schools.       * Not realistic to think someone is a full-time student and PT employee       * Internships works as interns come back as full-time employees         + Scott Sheldon -review types of contracts if they are not billable.      * Tremendous shortage in employees.   + It would be great to partner with companies in the community to get resources in terms of time/experiences of where we want employees trained and resources in terms of dollars.     - To get companies to invest, they need to see a value proposition.     - Charitable contributions get put where they see benefit.       * Scott Sheldon his company sponsors a specific org (Outsea?) because when AI logo is displayed, it is great advertising * Is there a way to get students qualified to be billable?   + Labor categories are requiring years of experience in order to qualify as billable.  Sometimes they qualify a degree and years of experience   + There are few that require - no experience and no degree and few have a provision for an associate degree. * There are issues with degree requirements   + Would be more than happy to hire someone with a 2-year degree with the right skillset over a 4-year degree.   + Understands the need to bump up technology, but we have to produce kids that understand the technology in use in businesses.     - * + Implement a survey tool to understand the pain points in organizations | Partner with local business community to find what new technology is available and working in private industry. Then give HCC students access to the technology so it can be applied in real time. Students will acquire skills for possible placement during and after graduating from HCC. Win-Win-Win for HCC, business community and students! |
| Budget | * Can we put a line item for innovation in the budget?   + Designate new money as line item in the budget     - HCC has an AVP of innovation but the tough thing * A c*hief Innovation officer* to help us understand what is available, and maybe that person is seeking funding   + Technology is changing so quickly     - Is there a budget item for funding for innovation?       * Acquiring means getting it and funding it | Make sure we get internal funding for innovation as well as outside sources. Need to develop partnerships with companies/ businesses in HC.   Incorporate into the report the need for technology and innovation as part of the HCC budget.    Need internal commitment from the college to fund AND Champion innovation and technology. Make sure chief innovation officer is “on board” with the plan. Must be committed to the cause on a consistent basis. |
| Partnership perspective | * + Generalizing partner with industry but we need to get more specific technology on it * College has to ID tools they think are needed   + There needs to be an outcome in mind   + Finite list of 5-10 things (understand what the school wants to address)   Ex. electric cars   * + Not clear where this is going that has an answer for a particular problem   + Everything is very high level - too broad to come up with 3 problems and 2 answers for the big problems |  |
| Next steps: Crocetta will provide notes to get feedback |  |  |