Computer & Network Technology

Advisory Committee Meeting October 24, 2017 Minutes

Attendees:

Don Campbell, Instructor
Don Fischer, Instructor
Mark Meuleners, Instructor
Jeremy Van Dyke, Insight Technology
Josh Benson, North Valley Health Center

Absent

Aaron Harlow
Bert Burkholder
Brian Woinarowicz
Jeff Compton
Joanne Johnson
Karla Hammer
Ken Satkunam
Matt Schumaacher

- 1. Reviewed Minutes from March 21, 2017 Meeting Approved as written.
- 2. Reviewed Computer and Networking Program Schedule
 - a. Moving to a Fall-start only
 - b. Adding "Online-College-in-the-High-School" courses
- 3. Reviewed Program Learner Outcomes
 - a. Current Program Learner Outcomes
 - 1. Student will properly design, build, and maintain computer networks
 - 2. Student will properly configure, install, and maintain computer networking hardware
 - 3. Student will recommend, install, and configure appropriate operating systems
 - 4. Student will evaluate and recommend appropriate software for a variety of computer service/networking situations
 - 5. Student will properly troubleshoot and maintain software
 - 6. Student will properly recommend fault-tolerance and security methods for critical information systems
 - 7. Student will demonstrate professional oral and written communications skills required an Information Technology Professional
 - 8. Student will demonstrate professional workplace habits including punctuality, attitudes, behaviors, and craftsmanship expected of the computer industry

4. Discussed general program information

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- Josh questioned whether Visual Basic is a key requirement, or if Powershell would be a more key skill.
 - i. Microsoft Exchange (e-mail backend) management and provisioning is all through Powershell
 - 1. The graphical user interface tools included with Exchange are inadequate to complete many management tasks. They must be done through the PowerShell command line interface..
- b. Unix/Linux Operating System— There is very little demand locally (maybe one account using an AS/400) for the skills (amongst the committee members in attendance).
 - i. Only see it where the administrators have a strong preference for it, and when they leave, the organizations typically change over to Windows-based servers..
 - ii. Windows and Linux webservers are still used, but not very much.
- c. Troubleshooting skills Troubleshooting is a challenge for new technicians. Are there ways to get them more experience before graduating?
 - i. Using Google and other resources
 - ii. Visualizing and developing approaches to troubleshooting logically (logical process).
- d. Voice-over-ip and VLANS
 - Students need to both understand how to set it up, as well as the reason why
 they are doing it (being able to understand concepts beyond Cisco's terminology
 and implementation).
 - For example, the meaning of a "tagged packet". There are clients using Cisco and HP Procurve switches. Cisco refers more to VLANS where HP refers to "tagged packets". The concept is the same, but the terms used by the vendor vary.
 - 2. IP phones and WAPS both have similar infrastructure design requirements
 - ii. The Cisco curriculuum covers VoIP a bit in Net II and more in Net IV. To cover it in more detail would require a review of opportunitites to incorporate more material into existing courses (to stay within the 60 credit program limit).
- e. Discussion of a possible Intermediate Practical Course
 - i. Powershell and Group Policy as a standalone class (replacing Visual Basic)
 - ii. PC Imaging
- f. Server Operating Systems
 - i. 2012 is probably the most commonly used in this region

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- ii. Teaching should be focused on the Currently available versions.
- g. Certifications
 - i. It is good for the students to get some that are applicable to their areas of interest, but they do not need to overdo it.
 - ii. Vendor Relationships may need them
 - 1. CompTIA is more generic good stuff
 - 2. Some employers may avoid certified "Engineers" as they can be too hard to work with (they "know" everything)
- 5. Discussed Industry Trends and Needs
 - a. New Ideas and/or Developments: No additional items were suggested.
- 2. Brief tour of the new Microcomputer Maintenance classroom/lab.
- 3. Gratitude to attendees / adjourn

Respectfully submitted by Mark Meuleners

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