**Los Angeles Harbor College**

**Business Division/Computer Information Systems**

**Date: April 27, 2021**

**Time: 10:00 – 11:00am**

**CIS Advisory Minutes – April 27, 2021**

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| ***PARTICIPANTS*** | | |
| ***LAHC Adjunct Faculty - CIS*** |  | ***Advisors*** |
| Dr. Dorothy Phillips – BUS, CIS, Real Estate |  | Pamela Thompson - COO of Homeless Health Care (hhcla.org) |
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| Walter Hamilton - CIS |  |  |
| Bill Brady – CEO of C-Tech (Network cabling) |
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| Chau Nguyen – CIS, CS |  |  |
|  |  | Arnold McLain - (McLain’s Network Consulting) |
|  |  | Janice Clark -Senior Operations Specialist  Los Angeles Unified School District |

Agenda

Topics for Discussion:

1. Are the IT Technician Pathway programs still relevant in the current IT industry?
2. Would you hire a student that completed a certificate in the Pathways?
3. What additional programs would you recommend?

**CIS Advisory Minutes – April 27, 2021**

These are the minutes from an advisory meeting held on April 27, 2021. The IT staff communicated with Employers regarding the relevance of The CIS “IT Technician’s Pathway in today’s IT Market and their wiliness to hire students from our IT Pathways.

The IT Technician Pathway, offered at 22 California community colleges, is a series of four sets of courses designed to take students from computer sales to help desk support to more specialized fields like networking and cybersecurity. Each group of courses in the pathway corresponds to industry certifications that are essential for employment in any IT job.

The pathway is divided into the following segments:

* Phase one: Computer retail sales
* Phase two: Help desk/user support
* Phase three: IT technician
* Phase four: Cybersecurity or networking specialization
* Cisco CCNA

Over 27,000 students take one or more IT courses at the California Community Colleges per year. With 64 Cisco Academies, 24/7 online computer labs, and over 330 IT Faculty — 70 percent with master’s degrees — they are the best kept secret in the cybersecurity solution, said Information Communication Technologies-Digital Media Sector Navigator Steve Wright. “The IT Technician Pathway is a uniform statewide guided pathway for entry level and advanced upskilling workers. Articulation to a four-year degree completes the journey to a professional education and better wages.”

**Questions:**

1. Are these programs still relevant in the current IT industry?
2. Would you hire a student that completed a certificate in the Pathways?
3. What additional programs would you recommend?

**Advisors:**

Pamela Thompson - COO of Homeless Health Care (hhcla.org)

Bill Brady – CEO of C-Tech (Network cabling)

Arnold McLain (McLain’s Network Consulting)

Pamela Thompson – COO of Homeless Health Care (hhcla.org) was asked if these programs are relevant to the current IT industry? “The industry has a desperate need for these skilled workers,” Thompson said. “The pathway provides a means for students to get those skills, earn those industry certifications and move into those jobs.” Pamela stated she approves the program and will hire students once they complete the pathway.

Bill Brady – CEO of C-Tech (Network cabling) stated skilled IT workers are always in demand. This pathway gives a student an opportunity to start in an IT sales area and continue training and advance in an IT career. Bill stated he approves of the program and will hire students.

Arnold McLain (McLain’s Network Consulting) stated the need for trained IT support. He stated the Pathways benefited both Employers and employees. He stated he felt confident hiring a student that completed a certificate program. He likes the pathways in that it gives students to continue to advance through the various levels. He approves of the program and will hire students.

**LAHC Faculty:**

Dorothy Phillips, Ph.D. – CIS Adjunct Faculty

Walter Hamilton - CIS Adjunct Faculty

Chau Nguyen - CIS Adjunct Faculty

The US Department of Labor listed Computer and Information Technology Occupations as its strongest areas for career growth. According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), IT employment is expected to grow 12% annually over the next decade. Employment in computer and information technology occupations is projected to grow 11 percent from 2019 to 2029, much faster than the average for all occupations. These occupations are projected to add about 531,200 new jobs. The BLS also forecasts that demand for these workers will stem from greater emphasis on cloud computing, the collection and storage of big data, and information security. The median annual wage for computer and information technology occupations was $91,250 in May 2020, which was higher than the median annual wage for all occupations of $41,950. There is a high demand for this technology and we can expect the enrollment to increase for individuals looking to acquire or improve their Technology skills and earn a good salary.

All three employers approved the IT Technicians Pathways program.