

# Minutes of the PC4A Meeting

## Held Virtually on March 30, 2026 at 3:30 PM

**Members Present:** Jamie Bretz, Michael Caglia, Waleed Farag, Josh Hamilton, Sherri Mack, Greg Paonessa, Donna Reed, Christie Sever, Lydia Taylor

### Meeting Information

1. Motion to approve the minutes of the February 23, 2026 meeting was made by Christie Sever and seconded by Sherri Mack. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Partners were reminded that quarterly technical reports for January–March 2026 are due April 17, 2026. Updated reporting templates were distributed and partners were encouraged to use them to ensure compliance. Invoices are due April 10, 2026.
3. Discussion was held regarding low participation in the POGIL workshop. Only two faculty completed the most recent workshop. Partners identified competing priorities, time constraints, and lack of alignment with current interests (particularly AI) as barriers.
  - a. Partners suggested offering shorter training sessions (e.g., 1–2 hour sessions) and incorporating artificial intelligence topics to increase engagement. The project team will explore alternative formats and potential new providers.
4. Participation in the upcoming Capture the Flag (CTF) event on April 10–11, 2026 was discussed. Very low registration numbers were reported. Partners were strongly encouraged to recruit at least one team per institution.
  - a. Strategies to increase student participation in the CTF were discussed, including demonstrating beginner-friendly challenges, offering incentives, sharing tutorial resources, and integrating participation into coursework.
5. An update was provided on the student survey. The deadline has been extended to April 10, 2026 to increase participation. An issue with duplicate IP restrictions was identified and resolved.
6. Partners were reminded to promote the upcoming Security Clearance Webinar scheduled for April 10, 2026.
7. Partners provided the following updates:
  - a. **WCCC:** Continued progress toward opening a Pearson VUE testing center. Final setup and certification steps are underway, with an open house tentatively planned for April 29, 2026. Multiple summer camps are scheduled throughout June, with additional camps possible later in the summer. Certification bootcamps are ongoing, with students preparing to test.
  - b. **PHCC:** Five students participated in recent certification workshops and are preparing for Security+ and Network+ exams. Interns remain actively engaged and may form a team for the upcoming CTF. Outreach activities are planned, including hosting approximately 75 high school students for cybersecurity engagement events. Participation in the CAE Symposium is also planned.
  - c. **BC3:** A third intern has been added to the IT department and may be encouraged to participate in the CTF. Interest in the Security+ bootcamp is lower than expected; however, the program remains open to additional participants, including students from

partner institutions. Consideration is being given to including non-student participants such as IT professionals.

- d. **MCCC:** Plans are underway to ensure at least one team participates in the upcoming PC4A CTF. Faculty are also managing competing priorities related to AI initiatives and Title II compliance requirements, which may impact participation in other activities.
8. The next partner meeting will be held on April 20, 2026 at 3:30 PM EST.
9. With no further business, the meeting concluded at 4:20PM.

Respectfully submitted by Lydia Taylor and Dr. Waleed Farag.