

Minutes of the PC4A Biweekly Meeting

Held Virtually on April 23, 2025 at 3:00 PM

Members Present: Michael Caglia, Celisa Counterman, Waleed Farag, Kim Fish, Kelli Gardner, Josh Hamilton, Melissa Langer, Donna Reed, Christie Sever, Lydia Taylor, Casey Veychek

Meeting Information

1. Motion to approve the minutes from the March 19, 2025 meeting was made by Christie Sever and seconded by Josh Hamilton and Donna Reed. The motion was approved unanimously.
2. A no-cost extension was submitted to the funding agency which was moved forward in their review process almost immediately. Updates will be shared with partners as soon as possible.
3. Bucks and Northampton have decided to conclude their involvement with the project at the end of Y3. If the no-cost extension is approved, an additional consortium partner may be added. Partners are asked to share any ideas for possible partnerships.
4. All submitted budget modifications have been approved and updated invoice templates have been sent to all partners.
5. Partners were thanked for sending their quarterly reports on time. The report is currently being compiled and will be submitted to the funding agency by the end of the month. Partners are asked to provide any additional information that has been requested as soon as possible.
6. POGIL workshops were attended by seven (west) and 12 (east) faculty members. Satisfaction survey results were excellent and complete survey results will be shared with partners soon.
7. The Capture the Flag event was held at the end of March with 29 students participating across nine teams. Prizes have been awarded, and the results of the satisfaction survey were excellent. Full results will be shared with partners soon.
 - a. Partners commented that their students really enjoyed the event and even collaborated with other schools after the event to discuss challenges that were difficult.
8. Results of the student survey were shared with partners. Some of the key takeaways from the survey are below:
 - a. Increase in the number of students reporting certification.
 - b. Increase in the number of students participating in cert-prep workshops.
 - c. Decrease in the number of students interested in transferring to a 4YI with many students saying they are interested in a job that doesn't require a four-year degree.
 - d. Decrease in the number of students interested in working for the DoD with numerous different reasons including political concerns and lack of local agencies.
9. Partners provided the following updates:
 - a. **WCCC:** Co-PIs attended the BotsIQ finals competition and set up a booth sharing program and PC4A information. Work continues on summer camps and establishing the Pearson Vue testing center. A Security+ workshop may be offered over the summer if there is enough interest. Work continues to launch the Pearson Vue testing center.
 - b. **MCCC:** Seven students have now passed both exams for CompTIA A+. Another A+ cert-prep workshop will be held in early May.
 - c. **NCC:** 100 high school students will be on campus to learn about computer science and cybersecurity programs. A Career Exploration Day will be held in conjunction with the

3CS conference, along with an open house. One intern will continue working through the summer, with more internships possible depending on needs of internship sites.

- d. **BC3:** After the success of the CTF, one faculty will be adding a Hack the Box bonus assignment to his cybersecurity course. Faculty attended the Mercer County CTC Advisory Board meeting. The Annual Cybersecurity Conference went very well. Six speakers gave presentations and about 76 people attended the event.
 - e. **PHCC:** The POGIL workshop was held on campus and went well. Co-PI Paonessa attended the 2025 CAE Symposium and participated in sessions focused on AI. Work continues to host the BSides event which will be held in early May. Six interns have been hired and are currently being onboarded. Five students are planning to take their Security+ and five are interested in Network+. A Career Fest was held recently with over 100 students and information on programs and the project was shared.
 - f. **BUCKS (updates provided via email):** Spring activities are winding down. A Python working was recently held, and another will be offered in early May. High school outreach events are being planned. Four students passed certification exams, and more students will be encouraged to schedule exams over the summer. Textbooks will be purchased soon.
- 10. The next meeting will be held virtually on May 7, 2025 at 3:00PM.
 - 11. With no further business, the meeting concluded at 3:45 PM EST.

Respectfully submitted by Lydia Taylor and Dr. Waleed Farag.