Minutes of the PC4A Biweekly Meeting
Held Virtually on January 29, 2025 at 3:00 PM

Members Present: James Bretz, Jackie Burger, Michael Caglia, Celisa Counterman, Bryson Edwards, Waleed Farag, Kim Fish, Kelli Gardner, Josh Hamilton, Becky Hays, Melissa Langer, Tim McCroskey, Michele Paonessa, Donna Reed, Erica Reighard, Christie Sever, Robert Stefko, Lydia Taylor, Courtney Tilton, Casey Veychek, Barb Zaborowski

Meeting Information

1. Motion to approve the minutes from the January 15, 2025 meeting was made by Barb Zaborowski and seconded by Courtney Tilton. The motion was approved unanimously.
2. Partners were thanked for submitting their quarterly reports on time. The quarterly report was submitted to the funding agency on January 29, 2025.
3. The PM is putting together a faculty mailing list to make communication easier and increase participation in the project. Partners will be sent a preliminary faculty list to approve and are asked to inform their faculty that they may get communication from pc4a-stem@iup.edu email address.
4. All partners were asked to make one final push to increase the number of responses to the POGIL workshop survey as responses will be used to plan the event. Partners will share the survey again.
5. CTC has selected three candidates for a possible internship. Partners have been notified, and budget modifications are underway. An update for the NR Lab internship will be shared with partners as soon as possible.
6. Testimonial videos are tentatively scheduled to be filmed on February 26, 2025 at BC3. More details will be shared soon. Other West PA partners are asked to send a list of students/faculty interested in participating in the videos.
   a. PHCC is interested in interviewing high school students who are part of the new cybersecurity certificate program and will reach out to the school to confirm dates.
   b. Written testimonials are encouraged by students/faculty who do not want to appear on camera.
7. The PI and PM met with a representative from Hack the Box to learn more information about the planned CTF competition.
   a. The event can be held synchronously or asynchronously, each partner will determine which option is best for their students.
   b. Partners agreed that holding the competition after spring break would encourage more participation.
8. The annual student survey was distributed to all partners and everyone is asked to share the survey with students. Partners are strongly encouraged to require completion of the survey in their classes. Once the survey closes on February 28, 2025, five respondents randomly chosen to receive a $100 gift card.
9. Tim McCroskey from the IUP Research Institute shared that all payment systems have been restored after the funding pause announced by the White House.
10. Partners provided the following updates:
    a. **PHCC**: Work continues preparing for the BSides Cybersecurity event and submission of the CAE annual report. Senior centers are being identified for students to visit and share information on safe online behavior. Two internship positions are open, and interviews will be conducted soon. Two certification workshops are being planned for spring break and at the conclusion of the spring semester. Students will have input on the type of certification workshop to be offered. Work continues on the HS cybersecurity summer camp.

b. **BUCKS**: Two cert-prep bootcamps were held in the beginning of January with 20 students each. Free textbook/lab vouchers have been distributed to students for the spring semester. The budget is currently under review to add the paid internship through CTC. Two additional cert-prep bootcamps are planned this semester, along with three Python training courses. Work continues to add Java and Python to courses.
c. **WCCC**: Equipment is being set up for the Pearson Vue testing center. A winter coding camp will be running soon and has been advertised through WCCC's marketing department. Work continues on cert-prep boot camps which will be held soon.
d. **NCC**: Internship requests have increased, and a budget modification will be submitted soon. A Computer Science faculty position is open, and interviews will be conducted soon. Curriculum changes are underway.
e. **MCCC**: 104 CompTIA vouchers have been distributed to students. 22 students attempted the A+ certification exam, nine students passed, nine failed, and four students received an NA. An outreach program aimed at senior centers is currently being developed and will be offered by honor society computer science students. A new part-time Cisco admin will start soon. MCCC will not be offering Net+ cert-prep bootcamps and asked if partners who are hosting a workshop would allow MCCC students to join. Multiple positions are open in the Computer Science department.
f. **BC3**: The scholarship application will open next week to IT majors. TestOut access codes will be purchased and distributed to about 70 students. Work has begun on the Cybersecurity Conference and partners are asked to send suggestions for topics or speakers. One graduate will attempt the Net+ certification to assist with updating the Net+ bootcamp to cover new content. A Security+ bootcamp will be held in May.
11. The next meeting will be held virtually on February 12, 2025 at 3:00PM.
12. With no further business, the meeting concluded at 4:00PM EST.

Respectfully submitted by Lydia Taylor and Dr. Waleed Farag.