

**Meeting Details**

Meeting Date	▶ Tuesday, May 19, 2009
Meeting Time	▶ 8:30am CST
Meeting Location	▶ Phone Conference
Meeting Subject	▶ Quarterly Business Advisory Council

**Attendees**

- Ann Beheler - CTC Principal Investigator
- Ann Blackman - CTC Program Manager
- Bill Blitt - Collin College, Dean of Business, Info & Engineering Technologies
- Jerry Clay - Lockheed Martin
- Carolyn Corbin - Futurist
- Dave Galley - Collin College, Director of Engineering & Technology
- Bryan Humphreys - Collin College, Business Solutions Group
- Corey Kirkendoll - Cisco, Technical Marketing Engineer
- John Nugent - University of Dallas, Director of Center of Information Assurance Programs
- Bette Plog - CTC Co-PI
- Kurtis Sampson, Philips Medical Systems, Project Manager Professional Services
- Helen Sullivan - CTC Director
- Candy Slocum - North Texas InterLink, Executive Director
- Scott Veibell - Cisco, Engineering Director

▶ **Agenda**

- Welcome and Roll Call - Ann Beheler
- Status of Grant Renewal – Ann Beheler
  - Have received approval for an extension through October, 2009 to spend the remaining money on the existing grant. We want to provide sub awards to our mentored colleges to get them off to a faster start.
  - Ann also announced that we have received a good reception from the NSF in regards to extension of the grant through 2012.
  - Ann clarified that in addition to the extension of the Green IT grant, there is the possibility of a new grant that will be potentially submitted this fall.

- ★• Industry, Business & Technology Trends - ALL DISCUSS
  - Candy Slocum - While things are not wonderful they appear to be better in DFW than in other areas of the country. Reported a new biotech firm coming into Rockwall bringing more than 1500+ new jobs. She's shared with them what is going on with the CTC.
  - Ann Beheler gave a California view point in regards to how expensive housing is that younger adults are not able to afford to live in California and are leaving.
  - Carolyn Corbin reported that she's seeing local employment remaining flat. She also reported that the Texas government was more ready for a recession than other states.
  - Scott Veibell reported on continued company policy changes on reducing travel and emphasis on telepresence. He predicts that companies will continue these types of policies even after the economy recovers.
  - Carolyn suggested, and Candy agreed, that factors are in place that indicate the economic recovery will be somewhat jobless. Carolyn also foresees that robotics will continue to expand and gave the example of public safety in fighting fires, etc.
  - Kurtis Sampson observed that one of the challenges [COMPANY] is having with telepresence is that their customers and business partners don't all have the appropriate equipment to be able .... Scott V not using telep internally because .... Scott joked that that the cost of one trip, buy customer the equipment. Corey interfaces with customers and agreed that making sure products use as little bandwidth as possible ...
  - Carolyn suggested that anything we can do in the area of home care is going to be

imperative in the future. Ann Br agreed how important that is, especially in rural areas. Candy shared her husband's personal experience with physical therapy and her thought on how something like the wii could be programmed for specific physical therapy prescriptions.

- Job Forecast Survey Results - Helen Sullivan
  - ★▪ This is an annual survey. Helen cautioned that we received a smaller number of responses this year than we have in the past. The feedback she has received is that the lower response has been in light of the downturn of the economy - It makes it difficult for people to predict job forecasts. Helen did say she would be sending out the survey one more time and emphasized the anonymity of the process and encouraged everyone to participate.
  - Some survey findings that Helen highlighted were
    - 1) Importance of a 2 year degree top criteria when hiring a new employer continues to come in at top
    - 2) \$45,000 - \$50,000 projected starting wage for AAS Convergence Technology graduate is slightly higher than past years
  - Carolyn Corbin encouraged the CTC to keep on doing what we're doing. She is confident that the U.S. economy will recover and that the world's economy will continue to be positive.
- Evaluation Report, NVC Report and Fifth Year Report to the NSF
  - National Visiting Committee (NVC)
    - Ann Beheler reminded everyone that the National Visiting Committee meets once a year and the purpose is to have an outside group to review the work of the CTC. In February 2009, after a two day on-site visit, the NVC recommended continued funding for the CTC. They commended us for... having good metrics, the increase in the number of students affected, the development of new course ware, the use of case studies in our classes, the work with UNT in providing a transfer opportunity to their BA in Information Technology.
    - Ann described the mentored college program as "on steroids" in that instead of just packaging materials and making them available to other colleges, we establish a relationship, are available to assist in the
    - Carolyn Corbin, as a NVC member, highly commended all the work the CTC is doing.
    - Recommendations: Ann Br to continue as PI, refine the strategic plan, establish milestones to monitor progress of the mentored colleges, investigate the home school market for potential new students, continue to improve web site in particular blogging, keep the BAC vibrant, add mobile device programming which is offered this July at Working Connections. Scott Veibell agreed that Cisco is seeing this demand for mobile device programming from their customers.
  - Evaluation Report
    - Pete Saflund - Helen Sullivan observed what a good job Pete does in looking at the program at a high level and then he bores down into detail. His recommendations included ideas on marketing, recruitment, and previewing the curriculum. He was very complimentary on how our center is run.
  - Annual Report
    - Helen reported that the materials are ready to go. We are waiting for our NSF program officer to give the o.k. to upload documents.
- Mentored College Report
  - Helen Sullivan has collected a status report from all of our mentored colleges. She pointed out that the mentored college program is where we get a lot of "bang for our buck" in that the programs that we developed at our partner colleges are leveraged, in terms of impact, when expanded to the mentored colleges.
  - ★▪ This was the first year we collected statistics on our mentored college:
    - Spring 2008 - 3 mentored colleges reported a total of 1787 students in convergence programs.
    - Fall 2008 saw an impressive increase with 7 mentoring colleges reporting

2230 convergence students. That is a **25% increase of students** from the spring to the fall.

- Ann Br suggested that this could be seen as a hub and a spoke program with Collin, El Centro and UNT being the hub and our mentored colleges being the spokes.
  - Helen shared the development of a cohort group, in terms of our mentored colleges. This began in December, 2008 with a one day mentored college meeting and three day professional development opportunity. Since that point, we have had a conference call in order for the mentored colleges to share information with each other. In July, the mentored colleges will come together here in Frisco on July 12 for a meeting and then have the opportunity to attend Working Connections and attend the Hi-TEC conference as part of the CTC group.
- Upcoming Summer Events
    - eXtreme Techno Camp - Begins June 5, 2009. Bette Plog reported that there are only 8 openings left and the program is expected to fill again with a waiting list. Rising high school juniors are the attendees with 12 area high schools represented. One focus is to produce deliverables like blogging, twittering, in each class. Rising juniors
    - Robo Camp - Ann Blackman reported that UNT's Robo Camps will run June 8 - July 10 at various locations in North Texas. The focus is on exposure to STEM education and career opportunities. There are 3 camps for 8-12 grade girls and 3 camps for 8-12 grade boys, all full with a waiting list. Eliazar Martinez, Brett McCormick and Ann Blackman will be leading a half day convergence program at each of the 6 camps. In addition, there will be high school faculty workshops offered with the same program.
    - Working Connections IT Faculty Development Institute July 13 - 17, 2009  
Current registration is at 113 attendees, the highest it has ever been. Maximum enrollment available is 120. Tracks offered are:
      - Convergence Technology - The Green IT Solution
      - Digital Home Technology Integration
      - Ethical Hacking 2.0
      - Information Storage Management (EMC)
      - Online Course Development
      - Programming Mobile Devices
    - Hi-TEC - Ann Beheler shared that this is a conference also occurring in July, that is sponsored by a consortium of NSF Advanced Technical Education centers, the CTC being one of those centers. The focus is on technician training and exposure to career opportunities. Helen Sullivan thanked Candy Slocum for signing up to attend as part of the CTC group.
  - Other Business
    - ★ Ann Br asked for discussion and suggestions for upcoming BAC meetings. It was agreed that Tuesday, August 18 will be a phone conference and Friday, November 13 will be a face to face meeting to be held at Collin College Spring Creek Campus in Plano, TX. The November 13 meeting will be a part of the NTRTC's Green IT track.
    - Ann Br thanked everyone for their attendance and again emphasized how important each of the individuals involved are to our success.
  - **NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, August 18, 2009 8:30am CST (Phone Conference)**