Santa Rosa Junior College

**Department of Engineering and Applied Technology** 

Civil Engineering, Surveying and Geospatial Technology (CESGT) Program

## **Professional Advisory Committee**

Monday May 12, 2025 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM

## Zoom

# **Minutes**

Members attending: Mathew Dudley (chair), Tony Cinquini, Art Graff, Andre Hawks, Mike Jones. Members absent: Lilly Capell, Steve Klein Others attending: Reg Parks, Stephanie Lokhee. *(A quorum was met)* 

- 1. Welcome, introductions made.
- 2. **CEST 51 course feedback & possible solutions (moved from 3h on agenda):** Reg revisited the old business question: Do we want to keep teaching regular hand drafting in CEST 51 or not? Currently it is taught the first 4 weeks online. A possible alternative is integrating APTECH 45 (hand drafting half-semester course) as a recommended course if students want a deeper comprehension. Tony stated surveying aspect of hand drafting is gone. His experience as a civil engineer and surveyor working in a survey perspective is that hand drafting doesn't need to be done anymore. Andre and Art both agree hand drafting isn't used. CEST51 students over the years questioned if hand drafting is practical. Employer's and some student feedback is that everything is now digital.

Motion to approve: Removing hand drafting from CEST 51: 1st Tony Cinquini, 2nd from Mathew Dudley. Motion approved (unanimous 5/0).

- 3. CESGT Program Update -- advance slide presentation/packet emailed in advance *NOTE:* Need to appoint replacement PAC member by July as Andre Hawks is taking on faculty responsibilities.
- 4. Old Business
  - a. Program faculty status: Andre Hawks new hire for associate instructor. Retired GIS certificate & degree – low enrollment in advanced courses and besides Reg, no one can teach courses, will not reconsider or market until a qualified instructor is hired.
  - b. Spring 2025/Fall 2025 schedules: Blended the overall CESGT schedule for students with day jobs and for those who secure an early employment offer after the first semester. This allows students to continue with the program – day and evening courses, also courses offered on Friday evenings and Saturday AMs. Some lecture classes online and most labs are in-person.

- c. UPDATE Aerial Remote Sensing and Photogrammetry (ARSP) Degree and Certificate fall 2024 start, spring course was administratively canceled due to low enrollment, need to market: Eight of fifteen original students completed SURV 62, Reg hopes those students and students who take SURV 62 Fall 2025 semester will allow SURV 63 to be offered in spring 2025.
- d. Lindley STEM Center GPS/GNSS Antenna Array: Jacob came back from surgery and his arm is in a cast, limiting his mobility. Reg predicted electrical portion of Antenna Array to be completed at the end of May or early June. Purchased network management software to run RTN station and the two other rooftop stations. When the array is completed and operational, in the future Reg wants NGS-spec, brace-mounted CGPS station for south campus in the open area between Bear Cub and Ball Field. This would become the regional 24/7 CGPS station (CORS, CGPS, CalTrans, SRJC). Still working with CalTrans for partial partnering/funding on that location.
- e. SWF/PERKINS 2013-2024 review, 2025 SWF grant submitted: Reg is spacing out timing for high-dollar equipment replacement – Topcon HiPER XT GPS/GNSS receivers. Was able to purchase 3 with the extra 2024-2025 \$111K this year. Purchasing another 3 if with the \$99K 2025-2026 grant application. Also acquiring replacement field equipment due to legacy, breakage, and failed items. Will repeat the year after.
- f. **Student scholarship and job placement/availability review**: 100% 2025 job placement, one student has offer from interested employers but waiting until end of semester. Reg has a difficult time motivating some students to apply for civil and survey scholarships, some don't follow through.

### 5. Committee Chair:

- a. How can we better market the program? Reg continues to promote more marketing towards international students. Reg wants student housing to identify rooms for international students who are attending for students in this field to go through the program. Need support for marketing.
  He received contact from an interested environmental engineer from Mexico. His license allows him to survey sites and boundaries in Mexico. He has been teaching himself new technology but resources are limited...only one CGPS reference station per state in Mexico. He researched similar programs all over the state and chose SRJC.
- b. Engineering Transfer (ET) students: Reg is interested in bringing back the 2-year program and including more civil engineering transfer students. Would like to see more ET students take all spring surveying courses. Some do take SURV53 (Route Surveying and Design).

Still encountering mixed loading where 30-50% of fall enrollment in SURV60 and 20-25% of CEST51 are ET and the majority do not enroll in spring follow-on classes. This forces/leads to reduced spring CESGT enrollment numbers.

c. Mathew stated the 1-year completers who they hire have been good. Tony would like to see more students completing the 2-year program to have a better background when they enter the workforce. Reg would like to add back more

advanced lecture and lab courses but we need numbers. Mathew suggested market to CLSA.

d. Central CA and SoCal Programs: Reg was invited to zoom meeting hosted by Ranch Santiago Community College. They are attempting to start a 4-year degree program. CalTrans coordination and potential faculty were present as well and did not appear to be aligned on pedagogy surrounding the field lab components. Attendees stated that students could be "sent to CalTrans for training". No discussion of standardization of laboratory curriculum or field skills assessment methods beyond that various offsite training individuals would "sign off" on students.

#### Adjournment: 1pm

Submitted by: S Lokhee, R. Parks Initial Approval by: M. Dudley