

MINUTES

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(Business, Computer Science, Digital Media, Computer Graphics)

April 24, 2006, 5:00 pm

The following persons attended the Advisory Committee meeting:

Business and Industry Representatives: Bob Snow, Design Factory Graphics; Ignacio Herrera, System Administrator; Laura Glynn, Parrotworks Inc.; Patrick Glynn, Parrotworks Inc.; Francois Envent, System Administrator.

Gavilan and Partner Participants: Jason Wolowitz, Accounting Instructor; Ellen Venable, CSIS Instructor, Department Chair; Robert Beede, Digital media Instructor; Robert Peacock, Computer Graphics Instructor; Vic Robinson, CSIS Instructor; Dennie VanTassel, CSIS Instructor; Michael Sue BrownKorbel, Live Oak High School; Bob BrownKorbel, Live Oak High School; Sue Flanagan, ROP Coordinator; Sherrean Carr, Dean of Technical and Public Services; Cathy Scattini, Gavilan ROP Specialist.

After self-introductions, Sue Flanagan, ROP Coordinator, explained the role of ROP, and Sherrean Carr, Dean of Technical and Public Services, explained the role of VTEA and described how our vocational funding and our advisory committee help keep our vocational offerings up to date with the industry, and help us learn how to best prepare students for the current job market.

Several recommendations about the local job market and our course offerings were solicited from our business and industry representatives:

1. There are lots of job opportunities designing video games, and in animation.
2. Good work habits, flexibility, and time management skills are very important in the job market.
3. Graphic design is a skill that is difficult to find.
4. Currently, about 80% of available graphic design work is for print, 20% for web pages.
5. Students need an online portfolio to show prospective employers, and be familiar with online job boards such as craigslist.com.
6. The job seeker's portfolio should show that they can work in a variety of graphic styles.
7. PHP and database programmers are in demand.
8. System administrators for Microsoft servers, as well as Macintosh and UNIX, are in demand.
9. Consider offering a class in Fireworks or Image Ready - Fireworks and Image Ready are two skills that are really needed by web designers.
10. Consider offering a class that is a survey of programming languages, or an assembly programming class.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.