



Cybersecurity Education Management Council (CEMC) Meeting

January 25, 2022
10:00 A.M.

The CEMC met on Tuesday, January 25, 2022, by Virtual Zoom.

Committee Members/Representatives Present

William Bradley
Les Guice
Commissioner Kim Hunter Reed (Proxy - Dr. Tristan Denley)
Susana Schowen
Greg Trahan
Tavares Walker
Daphne Williams

Brian Landry
Luke Purdy

Guests

Yaser Banadaki (Proxy – Patrick Mensah)
Xiali Hei
Curtis Penrod

Staff Members Present

Clint Coleman
Carrie Robison
Jennifer Stevens

Committee Members Not Present

Rick Bateman
Gabriel Fagbeyiro

Welcome, Roll Call, and Updates

Dr. Clint Coleman called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m., welcomed everyone to the first quarter meeting, completed the roll call and determined there was a quorum, and handed the meeting over to Chair Trahan. Mr. Trahan provided the public commenting information and handed it over to Ms. Schowen to provide an update.

Ms. Schowen provided an update regarding Louisiana Economic Development's (LED) statewide submission for the Good Jobs Challenge Grant Program. The core of the opportunity was employer engagement, focusing on deeply engaged partnerships that result in specific commitments to hire from the programs that are being developed. The Board of Regents will be the fiscal agent with hopes to pull in multiple partners at the statewide level to provide strategy and policy guidance. Ms. Schowen also asked Dr. Coleman and Mr. Trahan to provide a letter of support. A question was asked regarding how the resources would be distributed in the regions if funded. Ms. Schowen informed the group that a small section of the funding would be held at the statewide level, but the bulk of funding would be distributed to the regions, based on proposed budgets provided to LED.

Next, Mr. Trahan opened the floor for approval of the meeting minutes from the 4th quarter meeting which took place on October 12, 2021.

There was a motion from Dr. Coleman to approve the October meeting minutes and a second from Mr. William Bradley. With there being no opposition, the meeting minutes were approved.

Next, Mr. Trahan introduced three guest speakers, whose proposals were awarded funding from the 2020-2021 CEMC Request for Applications, to provide an update on their programs:

Dean Patrick Mensah (Southern University System) – Cybersecurity Talent Initiative Program

- The goals of the program included developing and expanding cybersecurity through establishing new service security-related pathways and supporting the participation and success of underrepresented groups for cybersecurity-related graduate programs and/or careers.

Dr. Curtis Penrod (Northwestern State University) – Cyber Security Work-Based Scholarship Program

- The goal of the program was to enhance the BS in CIS Program with a concentration in Cybersecurity allowing NSU to help address the critical shortage of cybersecurity professionals in the state and nation.

Dr. Xiali Hei (University of Louisiana at Lafayette) LCTI – Development of Two VR-Assisted Low-Cost Online Courses Leading to Security Certificates

- Due to technical difficulties, Dr. Hei will be presenting at the second quarter meeting.

Council Discussions

Regarding the 2021-22 Request for Applications (RFA), Mr. Trahan informed the Council that he circulated a working document for review prior to the start of the meeting to revisit what was discussed at the 4th quarter CEMC meeting. He mentioned the consensus from the 4th quarter meeting included sustainability of programs, repurposing the RFA language, casting a wide net, and streamlining the review. Mr. Trahan screenshared the document and discussed the minor changes that were made. He asked if any Council members had concerns or considerations for revisiting and repurposing what was used in year one? All agreed that the minor changes and repurposing of language made sense.

Dr. Williams suggested adding a section under evaluation or impact to collect demographic data so that the Council can report the numbers in future legislative reports. Further, she suggested adding qualitative and quantitative measures so that data is collected from the participants as well.

Dr. Coleman asked the Council if they felt strongly that the 25% industry match should continue to be included in the new RFA? No comments were given. He suggested circulating it around after everyone had an opportunity to look at the revised document.

Dr. Williams suggested adding a point system into the rubric to distinguish those who had already been awarded the previous year. Mr. Trahan asked if there should be a separate rubric for sustained projects? Dr. Denley agreed that for a project that had already been funded, the questions may look differently including how the project went, what were you able to achieve, what modifications would you put in place, etc. Dr. Williams and the Council would further consider an additional rubric.

Mr. Trahan mentioned he would work on more of the language and recirculate the document as soon as possible. Dr. Coleman asked the Council to submit any changes by the end of the week or at least let him know if they will be submitting changes so that they can hold the document before putting the finishing touches on it. A final document will be circulated to the Council for one last review before being released to the public.

Other Business

The Second Quarter CEMC Meeting will be held Tuesday, April 26, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.

With there being no other comments or business, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. William Bradley and a second by Ms. Daphne Williams. With all in agreement, the meeting was adjourned at 11:04 a.m.