NSF Curriculum Meeting 4/26/06

Minutes

Attending:
S. Mekonen VAT
C. Karasek VAT
Dianne Grimm, CHS
Pat Ivers, WB11
Joel Hernandez, BMCC

C Karasek explained the process of revising the curriculum at BMCC / CUNY.

C Karasek and S R Mekonen made presentations explaining the initiative underway to improve the curriculum and incorporate HD and STEM content into courses. The desire to combine the VTA and VTV FOMIs was explained and discussed.

Mekonen described the new courses under development:
- VAT 350 DV publishing
- VAT 3XX DV Cinematog.
- VAT 305 Prod. Management

A discussion followed on this topic.

The members present approved the revisions to the curriculum.

Discussion about preparation for success in today’s industry:

We asked P. Ivers to describe those qualities she seeks in a new hire. She said Attitude is most important, followed by punctuality, Technical competence, Ability to read the NY Times every day.

A discussion followed on this topic.

Dianne Grimm described the Science/Technology education available at CHS; Earth science, Life Science, Electronics, MS Office cert. Cisco Cert, Photoshop. She suggested we contact Ray Ruiz who teaches Electronics.

D. Grimm asked about practical experience of VAT 100 in the summer College Now class. She was concerned about time management and level of difficulty. We will send her a copy of Zettle with VAT 100 Syl.

J. Hernandez talked about the need for more teaching of hard sciences in pre college education in America. Foreign students are better prepared. He agreed that attitude towards learning is most important to success. Students need to be “fighters” for knowledge. He will also review Zettle and VAT 100 syllabus. He will work with VAT faculty on preparing STEM materials for the summer workshops.
There was a discussion about recruiting women into the program. P.Ivers says it is steady at 20%, over 20 years. Women can do the STEM. She got advice: “Honey, technology is power, so learn it.” Stuck with her. VAT is also about art and storytelling.

We will schedule the next meeting and follow up through email.

Meeting adjourned.