Program name: Grad CERT

Chair: Deanna Davies

Date: 2022-12-02

Attendees: Pete Grieve, Ann M. Van Herpt, Veronica Dogbegah, Louis Savard, Cynthia Egbunonu, Patrick Egbunonu

Meeting Summary:

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At this meeting, Deanna Davies discussed the success of two events that were held in the winter of 2023, which included guest speakers, field trips, and activities. She shared the results of a survey sent to students, with an average rating of 4.8, 4.6, 4.7, and 4.9 for their experience in the program, with faculty, with the program, and with the program respectively. Additionally, she shared some positive comments from students. Louis Savard presented on the need for technical professionals to have project management skills in order to progress in their careers, and discussed the idea of micro credentials as a way to make the program more accessible. Pete Grieve and Ann M. Van Herpt discussed how the younger generation has difficulty communicating face-to-face and Veronica Dogbegah shared her experience with how communication in the workplace has changed over time. The group then discussed the impact of COVID-19 on students in the classroom, such as the removal of the cap on how many hours students can work. They also discussed the need for empathy and emotional intelligence in order to manage the different generations, hybrid work, and remote work, as well as the importance of creating trusting relationships and ensuring that decisions are made with the best interests of the students in mind. Additionally, they discussed stakeholder management, the potential for the program to be offered in a hybrid, online, part-time, or condensed weekend format, the availability of bursary money for students to obtain micro credentials, as well as two student positions for a project called "Beyond the Classroom". The next meeting is scheduled for February 24th.

Main items discussed in the Minutes of Meeting:

1. Success of two events held in winter of 2023, which included guest speakers, field trips, and activities.

2. Plans for the future, which include offering the symposium twice a year, growing PMI and industry partnerships, and continuing to make changes to the program review.

3. Discussion on the need for technical professionals to have project management skills in order to progress in their careers.

4. Discussion on the importance of communication in the workplace and how it has changed with the advent of technology.

5. Impact of COVID-19 on students in the classroom, such as the removal of the cap on how many hours students can work.

6. Discussion on stakeholder management, which requires empathy and emotional intelligence, as well as new business.

7. Potential for the program to be offered in a hybrid, online, part-time, or condensed weekend format.

8. Availability of bursary money for students to obtain micro credentials, as well as two student positions for a project called "Beyond the Classroom".

Action Items/Recommendations:

1. Offer the symposium twice a year to grow PMI and industry partnerships.

2. Continue to make changes to the program review.

3. Explore the potential for the program to be offered in a hybrid, online, part-time, or condensed weekend format.

4. Make bursary money available for students to obtain micro credentials.

5. Create two student positions for the project “Beyond the Classroom”.

6. Utilize empathy and emotional intelligence to manage the different generations, hybrid work, and remote work.

7. Address the impact of COVID-19 on students in orientations.

8. Ensure that decisions are made with the best interests of the students in mind.

9. Encourage the development of communication and project management skills for technical professionals.

10. Foster trusting relationships between stakeholders.