



# IT CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

WESTERN MARYLAND

## Meeting Minutes

**April 29, 2019**

**9:00- 10:30 am**

### Attending:

Autumn Becker, ACM

Jennifer Light, ACM

Charlotte Clark, IBM

Stu Czapski, Allegany County Chamber of Commerce

Les Broadwater, Northrop Grumman

Jonathan Hutcherson, Exclamation Labs

Melissa Kaye, ACPS

David Nedved, Allegany County

Matt Growden, First United Bank & Trust

Bill Byers, WMHS

Travis Glessner, FSU

Beth Thomas, Allegany County Govt

Mark Widmyer, Advantage Computer

Dr. Kurt Hoffman, ACM

- Dr. Kurt Hoffman, ACM's Senior VP of Instructional and Student Affairs, joined our meeting to meet our stakeholders and provide an update on the Technology Building renovation. Phase I of the renovations are complete and included several bathroom remodels, a new two story lobby, HVAC, and an elevator installation. Phase II of the project is fully funded and currently in the final design phases. The second phase work will include an extensive revamping of the entire floor space of the building and will include a suite of offices and classrooms exclusively for the Western MD IT Center of Excellence and P-TECH. The time line for the next phase is 18 months upon starting and is expected to begin in spring 2020.

- P-TECH Mentor recruitment, Melissa Kaye

We are still looking for computer science professionals who are willing to mentor students using an asynchronous online platform and who are willing to attend one event a year. While the students are earning a degree in Cyber Security, the mentor does not have to work in or have a degree in Cyber Security. We are simply looking for computer science professionals willing to donate a little time. Once a month for the 9 months of the school year, students will be given an online activity to complete. The mentor will then view the online activity completed by the student, provide some feedback, and continue the discussion. IBM has generously donated our access and use of Mentor Place as a safe place for mentors and students to communicate. Mentor Place will send you email notifications when the student has completed their part of the activity and are ready for you to view. There is no need to periodically check the site looking for what to do. Each activity will have an objective, business connection, student activity and mentor instructions to guide feedback.

Our goal is to have 30 mentors for our 60 students; we currently have 19 committed, so we are 2/3 of the way there. If you would like to become a mentor or have someone in your organization who would like to participate, please email Melissa Kaye, [melissa.kaye@acpsmd.org](mailto:melissa.kaye@acpsmd.org) or call 301-759-2401.

**DATE TO RESERVE: First week in June (date TBD), P-TECH Student & Mentor meet and greet at ACM.** More details to come in the next few weeks! (time commitment will be 2-3 hours over lunchtime)
- AWS Academy

Autumn presented information on Amazon's free, open source AWS Academy. IBM had previously expressed interest in this cloud platform training and Autumn was wondering if other employers shared the training need. More information on the curriculum and certification offered through the Academy can be found [here](#).

Autumn will work towards becoming a partner and nominating an instructor to become AWS certified in order to deliver the training. Stay tuned.
- "Meet the Marylanders" Commerce recruitment video series

This new initiative coming out of the Department of Commerce intends to highlight people working in high-tech fields who have chosen to live/work in Maryland. The idea behind the series is to showcase all that Maryland has to offer for living and working, in order to keep attracting more high-tech workers to the area.

The criteria for individuals to be highlighted is:

  - Works in cyber/bio/engineering or other high-tech industry in Maryland
  - Is a transplant from another area
  - Can speak passionately about living in Maryland/why they came here
  - Is outgoing/not afraid to be on camera
  - Is considered millennial age group (ages 23-38), or close to it

Commerce said that not everyone checks all of these boxes, but if we can find one or two people that checks a few of them, we'd love to pass them along to be considered.

There is no hard deadline on this, as it a rolling series. To see their first “Meet the Marylanders” video, click [here](#). Autumn would like to pass along a few names by June. If someone in your organization fits the bill, please send along to Autumn.

- Tech at the Gap: **October 10, 2019. Please mark your calendars now!**  
A theme of “Elevating Intelligence” has been chosen by the planning committee and Exclamation Labs has developed a logo:



The planning committee is meeting monthly and sponsorship and presenter recruitment is ongoing- please pass leads along to Autumn. We currently have secured \$9,500 in sponsorship and need more!

- EXCELerate Update  
EXCELerate, which started in September, will be wrapping up in May and we will have three students complete the program. Each student has been incredibly successful and have success stories to share as they exit the program. Plans are underway to offer the program again in 2019- 2020.  
Program details can be found on our website- [www.allegany.edu/excelerate](http://www.allegany.edu/excelerate)
- IT Center website development  
In our new project schedule, we allocated some funding for creation of a website for the IT Center. Our goal in launching a website would be to increase visibility of our training opportunities and provide a platform for new businesses and job seekers to learn about our mission. It would also be a place to showcase the efforts of the many organizations we support/partner with like REACT, PTECH, Girls Who Code, Western MD Works, etc. Exclamation Labs is taking the lead in the website development and our completion goal is May 2019. Autumn will share updates via email on this development.
- 2019 Training Schedule  
Autumn updated the group on our 2019 schedule of trainings. Employers will be notified when rosters are due for each course. Please adhere to roster deadlines so proper accommodations can be made with training contractors.

Project Management Professional Training	6/3/19- 6/6/19	8:30AM- 5:00PM	4 days, with additional online studying prior to course, no exam voucher
Querying MS SQL Server (Course 1)	6/10/19- 6/14/19	8:30AM- 4:30PM	5 days, exam voucher included, series of 3 courses
CompTIA Security+ Training	7/15/19- 7/19/19	8:30AM- 4:30PM	3 SECTIONS, 5 days, exam voucher included
ITIL Foundations Training	8/26/19- 8/28/19	TBD	2 SECTIONS, 3 days, exam delivered on final day

Administering MS SQL Server Databases (Course 2)	9/9/19-9/13/19	8:30AM-4:30PM	5 days, exam voucher included, series of 3 courses
CompTIA Network+ Training	9/23/19-9/27/19	8:30AM-4:30PM	5 days, exam voucher included
ITIL Foundations Training	10/21/19-10/23/19	TBD	2 SECTIONS, 3 days, exam delivered on final day
Implementing a Data Warehouse with MS SQL Server (Course 3)	11/4/19-11/8/19	8:30AM-4:30PM	5 days, exam voucher included, series of 3 courses
CompTIA Security+ Training	11/11/19-11/15/19	8:30AM-4:30PM	3 SECTIONS, 5 days, exam voucher included

- Quarterly Reports  
Autumn distributed the most recent quarterly reports submitted to DLLR on 4/15/19. If any partner has questions or needs additional copies, please contact Autumn.
- NEXT MEETING: July 2019