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○ ISSUE 1 | ○ VOLUME 1 | ○ 2012

NC Mechatronics *consortium*

PREPARING A 21ST CENTURY WORKFORCE THAT CAN INTERACT WITH AND TROUBLESHOOT COMPLEX SYSTEMS.

Hope you like the look of the first "newsletter". Thought it might be an eye-catching way to present topics that need addressing. Jami

Selecting a direction

We seem to be at a point that requires us to make a decision. We agree that we want to go for the Golden Leaf monies so member colleges can purchase equipment for their Mechatronics programs. Discussions at CPCC lead to the following options on approaching Golden Leaf. We propose to form a 501c or one of the colleges acts as lead and the rest are subcontracted.

The 501c path would require our grant proposal to ask for money to cover all the expenses of forming and hiring for such an entity, buy equipment that would be donated to colleges needing the equipment and for CPCC to

provide the Siemens Level 1 training in 2013 and possibly Level 2 if/when approved.

Another option is one college acts as Lead in the grant proposal and others are 'subcontractors' the Lead could then cut a check to each subcontractor for them buy equipment as they want, with the Lead not being responsible for the subcontract

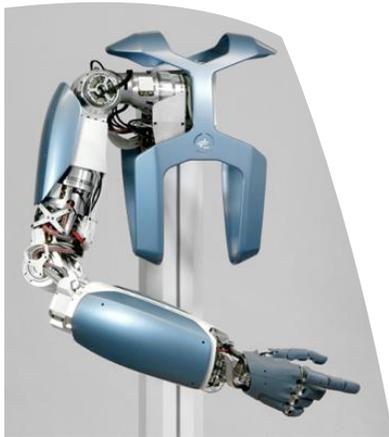
Of course there is always room for additional ideas. Note that August 23 and October 25 are the deadlines for submitting Golden Leaf applications for consideration this year.



CREATING A PUBLIC FACE

Groups similar to ours [techreadysc.com] have a web presence. As part of our efforts, this is something we need to buy a domain for, find a host and develop a look and content. We need to come up with ways to fund the endeavor as well as some folks to keep it lively. So start collecting your ideas and materials for mission statement, logo/seal for organization, promo material ready to go or concepts. We likely would want social networking sites and I'm sure there are many other ideas floating around we need to incorporate.

System Office doesn't seem to be the place to get Siemens training \$ from so idea is to wrap it in with Golden Leaf request. Other alternatives?



People to see & things to do

In the next few weeks, we will contact CPCC's grant dept. for any advice they have and Matt Meyer at the System office for tips. We will also contact the President and Sr. VP of Golden Leaf as they have visited CPCC before. The goal is to start a dialog and get useful feedback to help the success of our application. Any help, input or additional ideas are welcome.

Getting ready for Golden Leaf application

To prepare for the Golden Leaf grant, we need to do a number of things, regardless of how we structure the consortium. Colleges wanting money will need to start picking equipment, getting quotes and building their case for requesting the funds. The Golden Leaf website has details on building your grant proposal. I am told that the # of students, course utilization of equipment, how a community's job situation would benefit and companies or industry partners would be involved are some of the most important factors to present. Please give me some idea on your timetable to aid in planning the next meeting.

Anyone who has had previous success in receiving Golden Leaf grants, please pass along any helpful information you can to others by replying to all for this email.

HEY! Does your college want to take Siemens Lvl 1 in Jan 2013? Can you shift your semester start a week or so? Those interested should contact [Amy Dowdy](#) before Sept. 2012!



NC Mechatronics Consortium

[Contact info will appear here when we decide on it]

Since this is the first time I would expect anyone to have seen my name, I am a Mechatronics instructor at CPCC. At the meeting in May, I was picked as chair for 2012-13. [Tim Brown](#) of Nash is the Vice Chair for the same period. Gerry Hieronymus retired the end of May, so now he will be keeping his eye on us if he can spare time from a very long honey do list.

REGARDS,

[JAMI DALE](#) [CLICK NAME TO EMAIL]

WAYS TO PARTICIPATE:

Topic updates & Help with organization



I am sure there are topics various members stay abreast. In some past emails/minutes are Super CIP, SkillsUSA, companies offering internships or jobs, grant opportunities, all things can be disseminated among the group to keep each other up to date on information or opportunities. They are also items that would keep our web presence interesting, up to date and relevant to faculty, industry and students. We just have to make sure we pick the least time-consuming way for us to pass the info around be it a forum (social network site), email and eventually on the web.

As part of our effort to grow, we need to identify folks who can either be conduits to post the updates or act as admins for the information conduits.