

Strengthening Mobile Application Resources & Technician Training (SMARTT)

August 1, 2017 to July 31, 2020

Columbus State Community College, in partnership with industry, area universities, local school districts, and technology-focused organizations, will develop a multi-disciplinary career pathway in Mobile Application Development Technology. Through collaboration with the National Convergence Technology Center at Collin College, Columbus State will adopt and adapt best practices in industry-led curriculum design and faculty development.

INTELLECTUAL MERIT & BROADER IMPACTS

The initiatives developed in this proposal will create meaningful and current pathways for Mobile Application Design and Development Technicians that include professional certification, 2-year and/or 4-year degree options, and multiple, employable exit points. The result will be an academic program that integrates interactive media technology and computer science to prepare a technical workforce to support mobile application development. The deliverables include a detailed analysis of the knowledge, skills, and abilities of Mobile Application Design and Development Technicians, a model curriculum for a certificate and an associate degree, specifications for a device lab, and articulation agreement with a university. An aggressive outreach plan will target underserved populations with specific focus on low-income, first-generation students.

PROJECT DELIVERABLES

1. A Mobile Application Development Technology 2+2+2 pathway featuring model articulation agreements from high school to community college and then to university level baccalaureate programs.
2. A new state-of-the-art curriculum integrating existing courses with new courses and featuring project-based learning that incorporates an experiential learning capstone course and a SMARTT Device Lab.
3. Targeted outreach for underserved populations with specific emphasis on increasing diversity with low-income and first generation students.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY LEADERSHIP TEAM

The SMARTT project relied upon the support from a Business and Industry Leadership Team (BILT) to guide the creation and development of the Mobile App Design and Mobile App Development curriculum. The BILT consists of both designers and developers in order to have a representation across the field, and to aid in the discussion around the multi-disciplinary approach these two new programs are taking. This BILT provided an opportunity for industry partners to co-lead the development of solid programming. Working with the BILT, and holding in-depth conversations around specific knowledge areas, the project team was able to determine the most valuable pieces to include in the new programs, and also identify areas that were less important and could be omitted. The new programs reflect emerging techniques/ technologies and that includes project-based learning, integrated learning objects, and the use of virtual simulations.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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