



# Purchasing and Supply Chain Advisory Committee

Wednesday, November 3, 2021

4:30 – 6:00 p.m.

Teleconference via Zoom

## Minutes

**Advisors Present:** Angela Battle, Sellen Construction  
Jason Bruce, Trident Seafoods  
Michael Hugos, SCM Globe  
Sam Kaplan, Global Trade and Supply Chain Management Center of Excellence

**Staff Present** Lauren Hadley, Director of Workforce  
Lucas Rucks, Executive Dean Business, Communication, and Social Science  
Matt Versdahl, Lead Faculty

**Elect Chair and Vice-Chair** – Lauren began the meeting by asking for volunteers to serve as Chair and Vice-Chair for the Purchasing and Supply Chain Management Advisory Committee. Michael Hugos agreed to serve as chair for 2021-22 and Angela Battle, agreed to serve and vice-chair to move to the chairperson role in 2022-23.

**Welcome and Introductions** – The committee introduced themselves.

**Approval of the March 2021 Minutes** – The March 2021 minutes were approved.

**College and Program Updates** – Matt reported that his focus for the year is bringing employers to the classroom. He has been meeting with professional associations and exploring opportunities for students to get involved. Students are attending ASEM coffee klatches. Matt is also working on marketing efforts and promoting the program with industry. Currently there are 40 students in the program.

Angela recommended opportunities to get involved in K-12 outreach.

Lucas reported on the college. He discussed the difference between the recession and the pandemic and its difference in the impact on enrollment. We are 20% down in enrollment in the Community and Technical College system. In our area, we are doing much better. A change in International and Veteran students and their enrollment requirements may occur. There has been a waiver on their requirement to be in face-to-face classrooms. If on-line instruction is approved again, this may impact PSCM enrollment. This winter we are launching efforts to increase recruitment and Lucas is focusing on PSCM.

**Discussion: Automation/Technology – What’s New?** – A discussion about where things are going. Committee members shared their observations. Michael discussed infrastructure. Jason gave an example of an automated facility and their use of Kaizen practices and zero loss.

**What is the industry doing to rebound?** – Freight is the biggest problem. Followed by fuel. Operating costs are going up as well. All of this is leading to the increased prices we see on the shelves. A discussion occurred about the use of trucking vs. rails and ships and the increase use of electric vehicles.

**Discussion – Hiring – How are things changing? Industry updates** – This item was postponed for a future discussion.

**Student Experiences with Industry** – Matt wants to provide students the experience of seeing supply chain in action. He is looking for industry experts to serve on a panel to share their experience. Students have questions about the outlook of the industry, technology, what are hiring managers looking for, and what is the career path in this industry?

Sam can help this and volunteered to help with tours and other opportunities. Jason also volunteered to help – a tour can be arranged once the pandemic is cleared.

**The next meeting will be scheduled via Doodle.**

**Adjourn** – The meeting adjourned at 6 p.m.