

**Joint Center for Aerospace Technology Innovation  
Fall Board Meeting  
October 26, 2017 3:00-5:00 pm Univ. of Washington Guggenheim Hall**

Present: Board Members: Roger Myers (chair), Ryan Rule, Mike Bragg, Karl D'Ambrosio, Paul Applewhite, Jean-Michel Hillion, Mary Rezac  
Others: Mehran Mesbahi (JCATI Executive Director), Beth Hacker (JCATI Program Manager), Nicole Larson (WWU Professor of Plastics & Composites Engineering)

Absent: Naveed Deen, Mo Hartney

**A. January 2017 meeting minutes approved**

The minutes from the January 17, 2017 board meeting were unanimously approved.

**B. 2017 JCATI Symposium**

The 2018 JCATI Symposium is Thursday, April 12 at the Spokane Convention Center Centennial Ballroom. The JCATI Board will host a dinner on April 11 for invited speakers. Dr. Hacker requested board members provide her with potential speaker names by Friday, November 3. Board members wishing to attend will have their travel and lodging paid for by JCATI. Dr. Hacker will check back with board members in December for a head count.

**C. 2016-17 JCATI final projects metric review & summary**

Dr. Hacker presented a summary of the previous year's awards, noting that the amount of unspent funds was greatly decreased from last year. In looking at the award topic distribution, board members noted that many emerging areas were not represented: driverless vehicles technologies such as radar, hybrid/electrical propulsion, robotics, ground support, passenger experience. The board also noted that the number of UAV projects were lower than expected. Overall transition status of projects has increased over last year which is encouraging. For the project highlights, the board suggested adding or capturing qualitative metrics to the summaries, such as number of people hired, effect on production, etc.

**D. Industry in-kind support**

Dr. Hacker presented a summary of industry in-kind support delivered to 2016-17 projects. Two of the funded projects received zero support and another two received minimal amounts, despite large amounts of pledged support. None of these four projects transitioned to their industry partner. To avoid this in the future, the board came up with the following ideas

- Require industry letter of support (LOS) to include industry milestones & deliverables
- LOS to include company support plan-is someone in the company providing project management/oversight?
- JCATI could help provide industry mentorship by providing industry partners with a flow chart to give a full picture of how the process works
- Check in with industry partner halfway through the project to demonstrate JCATI's interest in the project outcome
- Provide company recognition at the annual symposium
- Collect past performance metrics on companies and don't fund projects from companies who don't support their academic partner
- Pull name from website list of funded projects
- If after contacting there is no change, send the company a letter from the JCATI board.

### **E. JLARC benchmark metrics**

Dr. Hacker presented updated JLARC benchmark metrics presenting 3 years of data. Based on this data, the board was interested in looking at other related metrics:

- Number of companies who transitioned the technology and came back again
- Number of new companies each year
- Cumulative number of new companies
- Total number of unique companies as of this year
- Number of projects that have transitioned each year

There also was a discussion around the overall number of JCATI applications submitted, which is slowly declining. Dr. Hacker shared that many companies lost interest once they realized the academic partner controls the project IP. Dr. Myers, Dean Bragg and Dean Rezac all agreed that there are ways to better explain university licensing options to industry and would work with Dr. Hacker to derive better wording.

### **F. 2017 WA Legislative Inquiries**

Dr. Hacker presented two separate inquiries from the WA legislature from the past 6 months. These inquiries show that the legislature is watching JCATI more closely as we approach the end of our program funding. Even though we have funding for the next 2 years, we need to start developing a legislative outreach strategy.

- Provide legislators and their staff JCATI information/reports
- Invite legislators to symposium-Dr. Hacker has done this each year, invited committee heads
- Create a new metric around preparing students to be “workforce ready” as a result of JCATI projects
- Have industry partners provide testimonials to legislative committees

### **G. Increasing industry and academic participation**

The board also discussed how we can increase JCATI participation by both industry and academics across the state.

- Improve outreach to both industry and academics.
- Use departmental capstones to identify potential companies
- Hold JCATI industry-academia matchmaking events across the state. Dr. Hacker has spoken with WSU about their Industry Day but it will occur after proposals are due. Dr. Mesbahi and Dr. Hacker are starting to work on an industry event for January 22 and will keep the board posted.

Both Dean Bragg and Dean Rezac pointed out that not all faculty research is appropriate for a JCATI proposal.

### **H. 2017-18 Projects**

Dr. Hacker presented the 2017-18 funded projects area of expertise. The board again noted the distribution and commented that areas of current rapid change are not listed. Dr. Hacker verified that proposals in those areas are not even submitted.

### **I. EWU/CWU Capstones**

Central Washington University (CWU) has a capstone project with Boeing to develop a prototype composite waste material processor. Dr. Hacker has sent CWU \$5000 in support of capstones.

Eastern Washington University (EWU) has a potential capstone with Hexcel, details still to come.

Both universities have been invited to the 2018 symposium, even if they don't have a capstone project. JCATI will pay for symposium travel/lodging for CWU and EWU attendees.

**Action Items**

- Provide Dr. Hacker with potential symposium speaker names
- Update RFP to address in-kind support issues. Dr. Hacker will work with Dr. Myers on this next week.
- Develop several "straw man" scenarios for how JCATI might change/evolve if received increased state funding.
- Doodle poll for winter board meeting
- Outreach by Dr. Hacker at WSU and WWU
- Develop a legislative engagement plan. Dr. Hacker will work with Dr. Myers and Dr. Mesbahi on this.