

MINUTES OF PUBLIC POLICY FORUM
September 3, 2015 – 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.
Co-chair Mark McBride
Held at UTC Offices

Those in attendance were David Alexander of TestOut Corporation, Kirby Glad of Cerenimbus, Ron Hilton of Proximal Systems Corporation, Jeremiah McCarter and Brandon Wright of ThoughtLab, Jack Walkenhorst of All West Communications, Shauna Waters of Syntricate, Inc., Al VanLeeuwen of Grant Victor, Craig Metcalf of Kirton McConkie, Helen Hu of Westminster College, Marilyn Davies of the UofU College of Engineering, Al Landon of the UofU David Eccles School of Business, Ross Whitaker of UofU School of Computing, Judy Young and Richard Nelson of the Utah Technology Council. Richard Nelson conducted the meeting.

Helen Hu gave a computer science update on Code.org, LANDESK/Jordan School District CS Partnership, necessity to ensure public universities accept CS as a science for college admission, and she asked whether there is interest in creating a loan program for prospective CS teachers similar to North Carolina where there is “loan forgiveness” by corporate sponsors.

Marilyn Davies, Al Landon, and Ross Whitaker said they would work with Helen to see what they could learn about the universities accepting computer science for admission. Helen will speak with Spencer Jenkins about the old loan forgiveness program and funding.

The question was raised if other companies would like to scale what LANDESK is doing with other school districts?

Richard Nelson thanked Jonathan Johnson for serving as a Public Policy co-chair for the last year.

Judy Young reported that the UCAP grant is in the final stage of validating requirements for the three positions the grant will focus on – application software developer, web designer and computer programmer – while finalizing any additional courses/certificates that may be required for training. She invited attendees to the September 9 STEM Media Campaign and Strategy Review at Zions Bank. In addition, she reviewed what was discussed at recent meetings with Senator Lee and Senator Hatch’s senior staff as well as inviting those present to attend the upcoming 2015 Utah Solutions Summit at Energy Solutions with UMA, Salt Lake Chamber and the Governor’s office on October 12 from 8 a.m. until 12 noon.

Marilyn and Ross briefly mentioned a prospective night-and-weekend retraining (with certificates) to be considered for the IT Initiative.

Richard reminded everyone of the D.C. Close It Summit October 12-15. Appointments will be made with Congressional staffers for those attending with Mr. Nelson.

Marilyn Davies moved to accept the July 16, 2015 minutes as presented. Craig Metcalf seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned