



LOUISIANA COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM

TO: Dr. Monty Sullivan
LCTCS President

THROUGH: Dr. René Cintrón *RC*
Chief Education and Training Officer

FROM: Melissa LaCour
Director of New Markets

SUBJECT: Report on Cloud Computing

DATE: 07/29/2019

Received
APPROVED
SLK
8/14/19
LCTCS BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

REPORT ON CLOUD COMPUTING:

Recommendation: Staff presents for informational purposes a summary of cloud computing efforts impacting LCTCS colleges.

Background: In May 2019, Governor John Bel Edwards announced a collaboration between the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) and Amazon Web Services (AWS) to unlock new opportunities for cloud computing in Louisiana.

Cloud computing is the on-demand availability of computer system resources such as compute power, database, storage, applications, and other IT resources, without direct active management of the underlying IT infrastructure by the user. The term is generally used to describe data centers available to many users over the Internet. Cloud computing shifts information systems from on-premises computing infrastructures to highly scalable internet architectures.

Academic and workforce representatives from each of the LCTCS colleges are working with AWS to establish a statewide Associate Degree in Cloud Computing. This cloud committee has demonstrated enthusiasm and dedication by meeting bi-weekly online, in person, and attending the AWS Summit in Washington, D.C. and the AWS IMAGINE Global Conference in Seattle, WA. The LCTCS two-year cloud computing degree program is built to address the growing number of tech employers throughout Louisiana and the demand for employees with cloud computing skills.

In June 2019, the LCTCS Board of Supervisors approved Delgado's Associate of Applied Science (AAS) and Career and Technical Certificate (CTC) in Cloud Computing. The CTC prepares students for the AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner examination. By the end of 2019 the following LCTCS early adopters will bring their curriculum forward to the Board for approval: Bossier Parish Community College, Baton Rouge Community College, Louisiana Delta Community College, South Louisiana Community College, and SOWELA Technical Community College.

Each college is using content and resources from AWS Educate and AWS Academy to support their cloud program.

- AWS Educate is a free portal with a robust set of complimentary tools, resources, and AWS Promotional Credits for students, veterans, and educators to skill up on the cloud and prepare for future careers. The program offers no-cost curriculum materials aligned to cloud-related career paths, AWS credits to allow access

**Changing Lives,
Creating Futures**

Monty Sullivan
System President

Officers:

Stephen Toups
Chair

Paul Price, Jr.
First Vice Chair

Willie L. Mount
Second Vice Chair

Members:

Tari T. Bradford
Helen Bridges Carter
Timothy W. Hardy
Alterman L. "Chip"
Jackson

Erika McConduit
Michael J. Murphy
Joe Potts

Stanton W. Salathe
Stephen C. Smith
Mark D. Spears, Jr.

Craig Spohn
Vincent St. Blanc, III

Student Members:

Samantha Rushlow
Shanco "Shawn" Williams

Louisiana
Community
& Technical
College System

265 South Foster Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Phone: 225-922-2800

Fax: 225-922-1185

www.lctcs.edu



**Changing Lives,
Creating Futures**

Monty Sullivan
System President

Officers:

Stephen Toups
Chair

Paul Price, Jr.
First Vice Chair

Willie L. Mount
Second Vice Chair

Members:

- Tari T. Bradford
- Helen Bridges Carter
- Timothy W. Hardy
- Alterman L. "Chip" Jackson
- Erika McConduit
- Michael J. Murphy
- Joe Potts
- Stanton W. Salathe
- Stephen C. Smith
- Mark D. Spears, Jr.
- Craig Spohn
- Vincent St. Blanc, III

Student Members:

- Samantha Rushlow
- Shanco "Shawn" Williams

Louisiana
Community
& Technical
College System

265 South Foster Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Phone: 225-922-2800
Fax: 225-922-1185

www.lctcs.edu

to hands-on learning of AWS tools and services, and a Job Board to connect students with cloud employers.

- AWS Academy offers an institutionally embedded pathway for students and faculty to gain cloud computing skills and knowledge to prepare them for IT jobs and AWS certifications. LCTCS college faculty will obtain the AWS certifications and earn AWS accreditation to use this content. AWS Academy courses are specifically designed for colleges including hands-on labs, knowledge assessments, and online learning content with real-world cloud computing experiences. These tools developed by AWS prepare students to be the next generation of IT professionals ready for industry-based certifications and the in-demand cloud jobs.

Today, cloud computing is the top skill that employers require of their IT teams, followed by security, project management, data science and machine learning/artificial intelligence. Forbes stated that there were over 50,000 cloud positions available in the U.S. and over 100,000 worldwide in 2018. The demand is expected to increase exponentially and accelerate in 2019. This new cloud computing program developed with short-term, high value certificates marks an exciting first step to bring cloud computing education throughout the state. LCTCS colleges are also partnering with Louisiana high schools and four-year universities to build a pathway for students to access these cloud programs. These relationships establish a pipeline for continuous enrollment and completion ensuring that Louisiana will develop the qualified workforce needed to attract employers.

History of Prior Actions: N/A

Fiscal Impact: N/A


Approved for Recommendation to the Board
Dr. Monty Sullivan

8-14-19
Date