**October 28, 2014 General Board Meeting**

Erica Atterbury, UCF Engineering Advisor, came to talk to us about direct connect to UCF for engineering, computer science, and IT degrees

* Relevant websites
	+ College of engineering and computer science
		- [www.cecs.ucf.edu](http://www.cecs.ucf.edu)
		- Information of the different degrees, programs, etc
	+ Internships
		- [www.explearning.ucf.edu](http://www.explearning.ucf.edu)
* What can students expect as an engineer
	+ When you hit your third year, workload increases…**SO BE PREPARED**
	+ You will get the opportunity to explore and create new solutions to problems
	+ Rigorous academics from scholarly faculty
	+ Access to research centers and partners and UCF engineering facilities
	+ UCF is ranked among 100 patent pending universities
		- IEEE ranks UCF in the top 20 patent strength
* Companies
	+ Lockheed Martin, Harris Corporation and Siemens Energy hire a lot of UCF students
* Valencia College
	+ They offer the Pre-engineering Articulated AA degree that transfers to UCF
* **Things to consider to avoid issues**
	+ Students must complete courses with a C and be in good academic standing
		- College of engineering and computer science will determine your engineering status (pending or specific engineering discipline)
	+ Students cannot graduate while only taking night classes
	+ Programs in the CECS are not online. Few classes are online (computer science/IT) however they require students to come to campus for exams
	+ Its recommended to have a 2.5 GPA in you core classes (math and science) to do well in the engineering program
	+ To have the competitive edge, you should have 3.5 GPA and above
* Direct connect pathway
	+ Guarantees entry to UCF college but not specifically into the major
	+ Must apply for graduation from Valencia College
	+ Apply for admission to UCF (pay an application fee)
	+ Send college transcripts from Valencia to UCF
	+ Once accepted, you will be declared junior status
* Plan B
	+ If you don’t feel engineering is right for you or you are not succeeding in it
		- You could go into computer science
		- You could go into IT
* Any questions???
	+ Schedule an appointment with Erica Atterbury
		- Location: UCF building Valencia West Campus
		- Phone: 407-582-5500
		- Building 11, room 104
	+ Charles Davis Jr. program advisor
		- He knows the degree programs in and out
		- He is the best person for advice on your engineering degree
* Check you academic degree program, it gets updated from time to time and they now require CHM 1045C for engineering students.