**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.