



EPISODE 6: SHOW NOTES AND ACTION ITEMS

In Episode 6, we discuss how micro-credentials might not be the “silver bullet” but are definitely at least “silver buckshot.” Intrigued? Podcast guest Timothy Thomas says that learning opportunities need to shift to be more personalized, more practical, more applied, and nimbler. He's the Associate Dean for Physical Sciences, Engineering, and Applied Technology at Mohawk Valley Community College in Utica, NY. Drone technologies are still emerging, so the college worked with industry to design their initial AAS degree in Unmanned Aerial Systems Technology. Thomas then asked local industry whether they would find value in shorter-term, competency-based credentials. This gave birth to the micro-credential, a sequence of four 3-credit-hour courses, designed to facilitate the attainment of a single competency. The road to micro-credentialing was not easy. There were faculty and departments to convince this was a wise course of action. Thomas graciously shared the language that Mohawk Valley adopted to describe their micro-credentials so you can get a head start!

Episode 6 Action Items

Think about a set of your existing courses that you could use or modify as one of these micro-credentials. Industry partners, help your partner education program define the competencies that will be addressed.

You might want to use this as you create your own micro-credentials.

Timothy Thomas, the Associate Dean, described the administrative process they went through. Here is a link to the administrative policies that were developed: <https://www.mvcc.edu/governance/board-of-trustees/administrative-procedures.php>. Scroll down to Academic Affairs and open the section called 6001 Degrees, rev. 10.10.18.

Also featured in this episode the Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems program at Mohawk Valley Community College. Here's a link to that program: <https://www.mvcc.edu/academics/stem/remotely-piloted-aircraft/index.php>