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Beverly L. Wood* (woodb14@erau.edu) and **Debra Bourdeau.** *Developing a Humanistic STEM Minor.* Preliminary report.

We will focus on how a team-developed Humanistic STEM minor will enhance critical thinking, create opportunities for improving writing beyond general education courses, and develop an “interdisciplinary mindset” that allows for multiple solutions to problems. We define Humanistic STEM as the study of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics that combines with concern for human affairs, welfare, values, or culture. Goals include an understanding of the humanities through the lens of the STEM disciplines that would not exist without human focus on the progress of society in the areas of rhetoric, literature, history, philosophy, art, religion, and ethics. Students in STEM programs can be resistant to taking humanities courses; showing relevance of humanities to STEM will enhance appreciation of both. We will discuss why a humanistic STEM minor would benefit graduates, including the reality that such an interdisciplinary approach is becoming a hot topic both within academia and industry as alarm spreads over the defunding of Humanities. There is growing consensus that the employment of the future will drastically change as the human workforce is replaced by AI/robots for routine tasks, resulting in a need to understand both humans and machines to remain employed. (Received August 17, 2018)