Owens Community College

Manufacturing Technology - Welding Advisory Meeting

Date: December 3, 2010

Location: Honey Diner, Walbridge, Ohio

Industrial Attendees: Larry Blake, Terry Lowe, Roy Martinez, Aaron Oyster, Phillip Pietras, Mike Rogers, Mark Scalise, Dick West

Student Attendees: None

Owens Attendees: James Gilmore, Greg Morgan, Glenn Rettig, Nancy Sheets, Randy Wharton, Bob Williams

Topic	Discussion/Rationale	Recommendation/Decision/Action
Call to Order and Review of Previous Minutes	 Meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by Chairman Dick West. Minutes are posted on the Owens web site at www.Owens.edu, under Academic Programs, School of Technology, Programs, Welding Technology, Advisory Committee, Minutes 	Minutes were distributed, reviewed and approved.
Enrollment and Retention Report	 Based on the 14th day enrollment reports, the Welding program is down 21 students from last fall to a total of 139 declared students. The regular Welding certificate enrollment is down 10 students to a total of 37. GMAW and GTAW certificates both have 1 student each and the SMAW certificate has 2 students enrolled. The discontinued Welding Option has 2 students finishing up. A sheet showing all the class sections running this semester and the number of students in each was distributed. 469 seats were available in 39 classes with 392 total seats occupied. So far, there are 350 seats filled in the classes being offered for spring semester with 5-6 weeks before the semester starts. 	 AWS was thanked for all the materials they have provided the program over the years. As well as the local chapter for sponsoring the Lincoln Motorsports Welding night. This year's event will be held April 7th. Jim will have flyers available at the meeting in February. A few of the bigger flyers are also needed. Nancy Sheets, Assistant Director of Career Services, is charged with getting internships and co-ops going. A database program called College Central is being used to post jobs. Contact Nancy for employment needs.
Faculty Report	 Charlie Stewart was not able to make the meeting today and called to apologize and thank everyone in attendance for their support. Bob Williams reported that it is great to hear about the success stories of welding students. Some are getting jobs starting at \$15-\$30 an hour. The editor of the Welding Journal wrote an article about educating welders and that 400,000 welders are going to be needed. Bob sent her an email about the Owens Welding program and how much the College is investing in it. Greg Morgan reported that due to the change in ownership, aluminum donations from Tri State Aluminum have been lost. 	 The program is growing because of all the things advisory members have done and are doing for it. Advisory members should inform Greg Morgan if they know of anyone who has weldable aluminum to donate. Terry Lowe stated that under the current leadership of Jim Gilmore, Charlie Stewart and Bob Williams, the Owens program has become the premier welding program in the State of Ohio. Good Job!
Student Report	Student was unable to attend the meeting.	

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Outcomes Assessment Report	 The student learning and assessment report was distributed to advisory members at a previous meeting. The operational plan for continuous improvement of the program was also distributed at a previous meeting. It lists the goals and actions steps to achieve those goals. 	Jim Gilmore is working on the new report and will present it at the next meeting.
Outcomes Competency Validation	The committee reviewed and approved the program competencies in conjunction with the outcomes assessment report at a previous meeting.	
Program and Curriculum Enhancements	 Spec Weld will be offering a CWI Pre-Certification class during spring break week. The certification test will be administered at the completion of the class. Considerations for the program include Welding Codes and Procedures, Machine Maintenance and Repair, Advanced TIG, Weld Inspection NDT, CNC Plasma machines, and Robotic Welding. 	 The Welding Codes and Procedures class was removed from the program as a requirement and has been offered as an elective. Because of the huge demand, it needs to be put back into the curriculum. Some classes currently in the curriculum may have to be deleted to make room for others that are needed.
Equipment, Facilities, and Staffing	 The College is committing 1.1 million dollars to the Welding program with the renovation of the Welding Center which will be open for classes in January. Jim Gilmore attended the Great Lakes Manufacturing Forum in Canada. The Welding programs partnership with Lincoln Welding and AWS is a great example of what can be done through marketing. The Department is in the process of hiring a full-time faculty member. The Search Committee will be interviewing the week of December 6th. 	 Interested advisory members will be given a tour of the new Welding Center following the meeting. There are many opportunities for jobs throughout the US as well as internationally. If students have good welding skills, they will find work. A new full-time faculty member is hoped to be on-board for the spring semester. Committee recommended the addition of another lab technician to the program to help in the afternoon/evening.
Accreditation Status	 All of the School of Technology programs are accredited by the Association of Technology, Management and Applied Engineering or ATMAE (formerly known as NAIT). 	 The program continues to maintain ATMAE and HLC accreditation.
Other	 The golf outing last year was successful. It will continue to be held, and hopefully, more will participate. A donation from the outing is made to the Donald Leonhardt Scholarship Fund. A scholarship is given to a Welding student each year. As the endowment grows, the amount of the scholarship will increase. The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m. followed by a tour of the new facility. 	 If Jim Gilmore can get golf outing flyers for the golf outing, he will make them available at Lincoln Motorsports Welding Night. All advisory members were thanked for their continued help and support of the program.