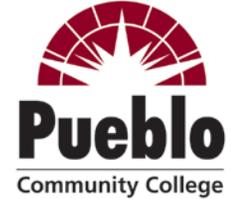


Industrial Electronics Advisory Committee

December 18, 2013, 8:00 am, Barb Fortino Room, PCC Student Center



Committee Members Present: Tim Centa, UTAS; Steve Chorak, Pueblo Workforce Center; Allyn Ward, Trane; Vic Alfonso, RexelUSA; Larry Harmon, Pueblo Community College Faculty; Charles Landry, Trinity Plastics; Mark Even, Black Hills Energy; Jennifer Sherman, Dean of Business and Advanced Technology; Jamie Gage, Chair of Advanced Manufacturing Technologies.

Committee Members Absent:

Chair: Jamie Gage

Recording Secretary: Susan Pelto

Agenda Item	Discussion Points	Decisions/Action Items
I. Introductions and Welcome	The meeting was called to order at 8:12 am by Jamie Gage, Chair of Advanced Manufacturing Technology.	
II. Approve Minutes of June 2013 Meeting	Vic Alfonso moved to approve the minutes of the June 2013 meeting. It was seconded and passed.	
III. Election of Chair	Ms. Gage explained the need for a Chair and what would be required of the Chair and asked for volunteers.	Vic Alfonso volunteered and was accepted without objections.
IV. Bylaws	Ms. Gage explained the need for bylaws and commented briefly on the draft bylaws that had been passed out. She asked the participants to review them for vote at the next meeting.	Vote will be taken at the next meeting.
V. CHAMP Grant	<p>Ms. Sherman announced that this system wide consortium grant was awarded. It gives a chance to hybridize the curriculum wherever we can, and allow students to jump start their careers. Part of it is to develop credit for prior learning criteria. This will help those who are already in the workforce to get credit for their experience and be able to take classes to enhance their skills and advance in their industries.</p> <p>Steve Chorak commented on the need for input as the work of the grant is carried out. The next Manufacturing Group meeting will take place at PCC in January and a survey will be sent out on HB 1165.</p>	

	<p>Ms. Sherman explained that part of the grant requirements is feedback from employers on the appropriateness of the proposed training.</p>	
<p>VI. Pipeline through High School</p>	<p>Ms. Gage talked about PCC's efforts to begin training in the high schools and attracting students to manufacturing fields. She said students like to visualize what the career is about, so PCC likes to take the virtual welder, 3D printers, etc., to recruiting events. She asked those present for ideas on what would be relevant to their particular activities.</p> <p>Ms. Gage also commented on how smart the students are.</p>	
<p>VII. Status Report on the Industrial Electronics Program</p>	<p>Mr. Harmon said it's exciting for him to see his first students graduating. He would like to see more students in the program. Mr. Alfonso asked about the numbers of high school students in the classes. Mr. Harmon said there aren't many.</p> <p>Mr. Harmon said that, as part of the CHAMP grant, they hope to create a capstone class that will be almost entirely hands on.</p>	
<p>VIII. Discussion: Curriculum Changes, and Employer Needs</p>	<p>He went on to describe some changes that will be made concerning digital devices, since that is covered in Programmable Logic Controllers. He would like to drop ELT 147 and add ELT 138. He is also considering a microcontroller class.</p> <p>Mr. Alfonso asked where digital and analog devices are covered. The response was in the Programmable Logic Controllers class.</p> <p>Assessments are trending more towards hands-on tests: can they wire something up and make it work? Some students are better hands-on than they are on written tests. Mr. Harmon has started putting certain basics on every test so students don't forget them between semesters.</p> <p>Mr. Ward said that the hands-on part puts applicants ahead when his firm is looking to hire. The learning curve is shorter.</p> <p>Mr. Harmon thanked Amanda Corum for her work helping with getting equipment.</p> <p>Mr. Landry commented that he used to repair a lot of SCR banks but now a lot of parts are throw-away. DC is converting to AC. His firm is working on</p>	

getting a good preventive maintenance/predictive maintenance program.

Tim Centa suggested that thermography tools are good visuals.

Mr. Chorak says he sees a real need for industrial maintenance techs. He thinks the program isn't advertised well enough. He suggested changing the name to Industrial Maintenance and that PCC does some focused recruiting.

Ms. Gage said she thinks parents are the missing link: they want their children in white collar jobs.

Ms. Sherman said they'd like employers to help by taking out an ad and sponsoring a recruiting night.

Ms. Sherman said we're now calling the program "Electromechanical Technology."

Discussion about the word "maintenance" as a job title and program title. Participants gave sample job titles: instrumentation tech, mill electrical maintenance and mill mechanical maintenance.

Mr. Alfonso mentioned using social media, u-tube, etc., to promote the program.

Mr. Ward described the classes his employees are taking at the plant right now.

Mr. Chorak suggested having the development of a recruiting strategy as an action item for the group. There was general agreement. Mr. Alfonso will help.

Ms. Gage offered to set up classes on specific topics if tuition reimbursement programs will cover students' tuitions. 12 is generally the minimum number to hold a class.

Mr. Ward asked if students could just take one class at a time. The answer was "yes."

What is the optimum number of students? The answer was 9 for PLCs.

Mr. Alfonso asked if the cost of the program will be a problem for the future.

	<p>CSU-P is cutting back on their Engineering program because of the cost of labs, etc.</p> <p>Mr. Chorak commented that PCC is working on links to CSU-P's programs. Ms. Gage expanded on that to explain specific arrangements.</p>	
IX. Good of the Order	<p>Ms. Gage: Solar and Wind Technologies are closely connected to this program. They are struggling. Finding instructors is difficult.</p> <p>January 24, 2014 is the date for the next Manufacturing Group meeting.</p> <p>Mr. Harmon asked for internship sites. They can be paid or unpaid. PCC takes the liability.</p>	<p>If you know someone who would be interested in teaching Solar or Wind Technology, please let Ms. Gage know.</p>
X. Next Meeting:	<p>Exact date to be determined.</p>	<p>The first week in March, in the morning.</p>
XI. Adjourn	<p>The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.</p>	

Submitted by Susan Pelto