

Owens Community College

Welding Advisory Committee Meeting

Date: October 24, 2014

Location: Industrial and Engineering Technologies Building, Room 130

Industrial Attendees: Larry Blake, Terry Lowe, Aaron Oyster, Mike Rogers, Mark Scalise, John Sliwinski, Dick West

Student Attendees: Rachel Bellner, Jarrett Randall

Owens Attendees: Tony Duris, Ben Frazier, Terry Katschke, Brad Meyer, Jacey Parks, Tom Perin, Glenn Rettig

Topic	Discussion/Rationale	Recommendation/Decision/Action
Welcome and Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting was called to order by Terry Katschke at 8:50 a.m. Terry is the new Chair for Applied Engineering and Industrial Technologies which includes Welding. • Tom Perin, Associate Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness, announced that President Bower is very invested in the Welding program and wants to know if there is anything that can be done to improve the program and make the students more employable or marketable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions were made. • Advisory Committee Chair and Vice-Chair positions were filled as follows: Chair – Terry Lowe; Vice-Chair – Mark Scalise • Minutes from the spring meeting were reviewed and approved. • Minutes from today’s meeting will be sent to advisory members with the spring invitation so they can be reviewed before the meeting.
Enrollment and Retention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 31 class sections running this semester with 292 students enrolled. There are students from many other majors that also take welding classes (the handout on enrollment and retention listed all the majors). • There are 79 unduplicated, declared welding majors. This is a drop of 39 students from last year or 33.1%. • It is hoped that by offering courses as alternate 7 week classes, it will help increase enrollments and retention by the completion of certificates. Many certificates are not financial aid eligible, so students sign on as taking the major to get the financial aid. They then get the certificate and don’t finish the degree, thereby hurting the program. Hopefully, students getting the certificate more quickly will entice them to finish the general education courses for the degree. • Tom Perin asked if there is a need in industry to attract business students to the Welding area or maybe offer a business tract for welding students to become managers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seven week classes will be put on the spring 2015 schedule so that students trying to complete a certificate can do it in one semester. The GMAW, GTAW, and SMAW can be completed in one semester. The proposed Plate Welding certificate can be completed in two semesters. • If the Curriculum Committee approves it at their meeting at the end of October, a new Plate Welding certificate will be added. • The Workforce and Community Services Department has secured a grant and is looking at running a program 8 hours a day/5 days a week. It would be hard for the Applied Engineering and Welding Department to find instructors during the day to do a full-time program like this.. • It was suggested to offer internships/co-ops/field experiences. Corporate partnerships could be tailored to the company’s needs, similar to the John Deere program where the student goes to class half a semester then works the other half.
Faculty Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructor Tony Duris is concerned as to why the number of students is dropping. A commercial on the Welding program was shot last week. Technology in the welding industry is tremendous – is there a need to introduce water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When industry is booming, enrollment drops. • Instructor Tony Duris is pushing for a Math for Welders course in the curriculum. Instead of MTH 151 and 152, geometry, algebra and trig would all be put into one 3-

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	jet tables or lasers in the program?	<p>credit hour class geared toward welding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The required credit hours for the program are dropping due to a mandate from the Ohio Board of Regents.
Student Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student Rachel Bellner was previously working as a student worker in the welding lab. She has asthma, so she personally invested in a respirator. She thought there should be better dusk masks or a better respiration system during welding. The buzzer for the tool room is not loud enough to be heard. She also felt there should be a better system for tool control. Student Jarrett Randall stated that students need to clean up their areas and put their tools away. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better dusk masks will be investigated. A strobe light that activates when the buzzer to the tool room goes off will be added. Students present liked the idea of running the classes more than once or twice a week. It would help them retain what they learn. Instructors will be reminded to tell students to clean up their booths and return their tools to the tool room.
Outcomes Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outcome assessment information gets loaded into the Task Stream system for accreditation purposes. Terry Katschke asked advisory members to give him what they consider to be the five most important skills that welding graduates acquire from the program. Course level outcomes are approved by the SLAC (Student Learning Assessment Committee) and program level changes are approved by the Curriculum Committee. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advisory members were asked to complete the forms distributed to them regarding program outcomes and their updated contact information and return them to Terry Katschke in the postage paid envelope provided. Results of collected outcomes will be shared at the spring meeting. The outcomes assessment process and the rubrics used to measure the outcomes in one of the Welding courses will be presented at the spring meeting.
Program and Curriculum Enhancements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many of the curriculum items were previously discussed – please see Enrollment and Retention Section and Faculty Report. Terry Lowe stated there is a big demand for non-destructive testing (NDT). It could possibly be added as an elective in the last semester of the program. He will help out with equipment needed to run the class. Terry Lowe awarded a \$2,000 check from the American Welding Society for the Donald Leonhardt Scholarship. Don was a lab technician and adjunct faculty member devoted to welding. He was a great guy who died from brain cancer. The American Welding Society holds a golf outing each year to raise funds for the scholarship. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advisory members should let Terry Katschke know of anyone interested in teaching a NDT course in the evenings. After much discussion, it seems the focus of the program needs to change from the program to the certificate. The program would still be available, but offer larger one-year certificates that are financial aid eligible. Offering a schedule for a full-time student (5 days a week) will be considered.
Equipment, Facilities, and Staffing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expensive equipment needed for the program should be included in the three-year budget plan. The full-time lab technician position has been advertised internally. If no one responds within two weeks, it will be advertised outside the College. Another full-time instructor is needed, but cannot be 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As mentioned at the previous meeting, it is hoped that a floor scrubber can be purchased. It needs to be able to pick up sludge making it a specialty item, so it can be pricey. It was suggested to look for opportunities of good used equipment when necessary.

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	<p>advertised until upper administration approves it. When the time comes, feedback from advisory members will be important and a few may be asked to be on the search committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Career Day/Open House will be held in March of next year.• Advisory members felt it was very important for the credibility of the program to have another full-time instructor, as the number of adjuncts is hurting the program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rachel Bellner's student worker position will be filled, but more student workers are needed. Due to budget constraints, hiring more student workers is very unlikely. It was suggested that students be rotated to work in the tool room.• An enrollment increase in the program would justify hiring another full-time faculty member.
Accreditation Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Welding program is accredited by the Association of Technology, Management, and Applied Engineering (ATMAE).• The site visit team will want to meet with advisory members, students and alumni. Please be aware that a number of advisory members may be invited to participate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Student material is being collected for the ATMAE site visit in the spring.• It is hopeful that another six year accreditation will be awarded. Accreditation visit reports are reviewed each year at the ATMAE Conference held in November.
Open Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• STEM Advisor Jacey Parks, commented that the advisors make sure students petition for the certificates as they make their way through the program. She is sure students will be excited about 7-8 week classes being a possibility as they will be able to get through the program in half the time.• The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•