

**MECHATRONICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES**

**Tuesday, December 1st, 2020\* 6:00-7:00pm**

**Zoom Online**

**Members Present:** Zeb Hallmark, Analog Devices (Committee Chair); Noah Wass, Elkhard Plastics

**Members Absent:** Jerome Davis, Botecote

**Clark College:** Ken Luchini, Professor; Wende Fisher, Educational Planner – Advising; Larry Smith, Instructor; Armetta Burney, Interim Dean – WPTE; SueAnn McWatters, Program Specialist – Advisory Committees

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Zeb Hallmark called the meeting to order at 6:03pm and introductions were made.

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

*The minutes of June 2nd, 2020 were presented: Zeb Hallmark motioned to approve. Noah Wass seconded and was unanimously approved.*

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

The committee will next meet on **Tuesday, June 8th, 2021 at 6:00pm.**

*The meeting was cancelled as there were not enough members. It was rescheduled to Tuesday, November 16th, 2021 at 6:00pm.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE OFFICE OF INSTRUCTION:**

Armetta Burney shared the following announcements:

The college has made the decisions that winter and spring will continue to teach into remote modalities. Some CTE programs are conducting hands on lab.

The college is anticipating a revenue shortfall so that’s very challenging. We are still waiting on the legislature to determine what the budget will be. We are anticipating that state agencies will receive a cut of about 10%.

Some exciting news that we need to share. We are refocusing and rebranding the CTC building into Clark East to hopefully increase partnerships with industry.

Fall quarter enrollment achieved about 87% of the target FTEs.

**PROGRAM UPDATES**

Ken Luchini spoke on the current program and where it’s at. They are currently into Mechatronics II. There are two quarters that repeat themselves throughout the program. The summer and winter quarters are essentially the same courses with 70 contact hours with students. For the fall and spring quarters, there are about 50 contact hours with students. The quarterly credits averages out to about 60 hours. As of the most recent summer, the program finished the teach out from previous classes. He continued speaking on the curriculum map and which faculty are teaching where. The program needs at least one more full-time faculty and two more part-time faculty.

COVID pandemic protocols has created different levels. The hybrid modality means that lectures and homework content is all online, while the hands on is done in the lab. Students usually have about 1-2 hours for lecture and then 6-18 hours for hands on labs per week. All students must go through a wellness check as they come into the building.

* 6ft. social distancing
* Wear a mask
* Checked for temperature
* Pre-screening questionnaire
* While IN class, they are also monitored to keep distancing

The online modality is completely remote where students will have 2-3 hours of zoom meetings and labs are simulator assignments, activities or examples. Online has a synchronous presentation where the lecture has been done via zoom. There are usually lecture notes with slide presentations and labs and all material are accessible 24/7 on Canvas.

There is a high demand for mechatronics technicians in this area. Ken did a quick search and saw that there were at least 1700 jobs available.

Ken proceeded to show the committee a few videos to advertise the program and show what the students are doing.

Zeb Hallmark was impressed with Ken and the faculty have been able to interact with the students while in remote. The lab hours is very important.

The committee spoke more about the issues of not being able to teach in person. They also spoke on the liabilities of teaching in person. Most of the students love the hands on.

There have already been a few cases of students testing positive with COVID. We connect the students with the health advisors who follow up with questions to the student’s experience in the face to face labs. One of those questions has to do with them maintaining social distance. If the student responds positively in that social distancing was occurring, then the program can continue instruction.

**EQUIPMENT**

Ken Luchini does not want to lend out any of the equipment due to the cost.

**ADVANCED MANUFACTURING CENTER UPDATE**

Armetta Burney stated that the college has not yet received word on if they will receive funding for the site.

**INDUSTRY UPDATES**

Zeb Hallmark currently has two apprentices that are working their way through the Mechatronics program.

Noah Wass confirmed and empathized to the struggles of COVID. His facility also has all of the protocols and multiple people. Having the basic understandings of hydraulics, pneumatics and motor maintenance was important, but also understanding and knowing PLC’s, light programming, and industrial internet is also the way the industry is going. He would like to get their new maintenance technician into this program; hopefully by fall 2021. Wende Fisher explained that the program normally starts in the summer or winter.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52pm.

Prepared by SueAnn McWatters