



Advanced Manufacturing -MINUTES
October 7, 2025, at 12:00 PM
JSH Room 116

Members Present: Jay Schmidt (Committee Chair), Board Chair, SW WA High-Tech Council; Alyssa Joyner (Vice-Chair), Sr. Project Manager, Workforce SW WA; Brad D’Emilio, General Manager of Operations, Kyocera International Inc; Craig Lahti, Manufacturing Manager, Columbia Machine; Connor Lenhart, Welding Process Specialist, Airgas; Margarita Marochkina, Business Navigator, WorkSource; Buck Rogers, Regional Manager, Klein Educational Systems;

Guests: Clark Rogers? Caleb Creason, Tim R, Chris F, Tim Robertson, John Smethers, Concept Reality; April Fivecoats, Maveric Corp; Alicia Chapman, Willamette Tech Fab; Tim Roberson, ConMet; Caleb Creason, ConMet; Chris Drury, Ryonet

Members Absent: Toni Neary, Director of Community Engagement & Workforce, SME; Nate Laing, Business Development, Factory XT; Will Macia, Director, Operations, Blazer Modular MFG

Clark College: Theo Koupelis, Dean of WPTE & STEM, Clark College; Carl Douglas, Director, SEMCE; Ann Campbell, Director of Community Continuing Education & Customized Training, Clark College; Angela Toretta, Associate Vice President Development, Clark College Foundation; Tommy Beyea, Associate Director of Development and Partner Giving, Clark College Foundation; Wende Fisher, Elizabeth Flores, Advisory Coordinator, Clark College; Justin Stokes, Associate Director of Development and Partner Engagement, Clark College Foundation; Wende Fisher Academic Advisor, Clark College;

The meeting began at 12:03 PM, and a quorum was met.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The committee will meet next on Tuesday, February 17, 2026.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from the previous meeting on April 15, 2025, and Aug 7, 2025, were approved.

FOUNDATION UPDATES

Jay shared program information and resources available through the *Penguin Partners* magazine. Angela invited members to the Connecting Clark event hosted by the Clark College Foundation on Thursday, November 13, 2025. Registration details and invitation cards were distributed.

AMC UPDATES

Carl reported that the goal for the fall quarter was to complete all work cells, which are now approximately 90% finished. He noted some challenges with equipment, including the inability to perform welding until new welding curtains are installed. The program is currently obtaining quotes for the curtains and awaiting the delivery of process gases, which are not yet available.

Carl emphasized the importance of using the same gas supplier across both sites. The program is ready to begin anchoring tools to the floor pending an engineering response. Students have begun initial cutting work on the floor, and the program recently received six pallets of parts. The water jet is scheduled to begin operations on October 13, 2025.

He noted that the fire cube project has experienced a few setbacks. Tina Jenkins and Jesse Kysar are doing an excellent job supporting the program in the absence of full-time instructors. There are currently 13 students enrolled in the first-year cohort, with a capacity for 16.

Alyssa asked which classes students are currently taking.

Carl responded that students are enrolled in *Manual Manufacturing I*, *Manufacturing College 101*, and *OSHA 10*.

Ann discussed the college's plans to expand training for industry needs.

Jay asked about the skill set required for adjunct instructors.

Carl explained that instructors should focus on introducing all systems safely and effectively. The program continues to receive additional equipment, and students can expect to gain hands-on experience in additive and subtractive manufacturing, print reading, and related areas.

OPEN ACTION ITEMS

Jay discussed reviewing regional programs to identify best practices and gaps.

Alyssa shared that Tina Jenkins has begun organizing tours for employers at AMC and coordinating student visits to employer sites.

Carl reported that student feedback has been positive.

Connor asked for an update on upcoming tours.

Justin mentioned that tours have included QB, Roadmaster, and others.

Alyssa suggested developing strategies to structure tours by cohort size or group type.

John S. asked what the standard tour size is.

Justin responded that standard group sizes are 10–12 participants.

Carl invited anyone interested in scheduling a tour to contact him or Tina Jenkins.

WORK PLAN

Jay introduced the goal and purpose of the work plan and defined desired outcomes.

Jay and Alyssa encouraged members and Clark College staff to help identify desired program outcomes, industry needs, and methods of evaluation.

The group then participated in a collaborative work plan activity.

WORK PLAN ACTIVITY

Carl shared that his group focused on outcomes from the students' perspective—what they want to know versus what the program wants them to achieve.

Identified Outcomes:

- **Achieve proficiency in learning outcomes**
 - Evaluate performance through instructor feedback and testing to ensure understanding.
- **Develop soft skills and teamwork abilities**
 - Assess collaboration and the ability to balance diverse student strengths.
 - Ann asked how these skills are taught.
 - Carl explained that negotiation and collaboration are integrated into coursework. Ann also shared that she received a Job Skills Grant from Lead Sigma for leadership and professional skills training and invited members to participate.
- Certificate and degree completion
- Employment placement and job readiness
- Skill validation and industry certifications

Jay's group identified the following high-level goals:

- Attention to detail — including professionalism, punctuality, and safety awareness.
- Communication and professionalism — emphasizing interpersonal effectiveness.
 - Connor asked whether cover letters and professional development classes are available.
 - Carl, Ann, and Wende provided information about available student resources.
- **Versatility** — understanding the rationale behind the program's curriculum.
- **Variety of pathways** — Connor noted that students often miss understanding the multiple career avenues available through foundational skills. Carl expressed interest in developing internship models like the Automotive program that integrate education and on-the-job experience.
- Continuous learning — Jay emphasized establishing a reliable and consistent internship structure and incorporating student feedback for continuous improvement.

Additional Discussion Points:

- Training students on foundational terminology and tools.
- Ensuring students are proficient in Excel and other technical software.
- Incorporating varied, work-based capstone projects.
- Exploring the creation of an alumni directory.
- Increasing understanding of AS9100 standards and their importance.

Chris asked how key performance indicators would be measured in the workforce.

Carl described the assessment systems already in place.

Caleb asked about technical writing courses, and Wende provided the course names currently offered.

Alicia inquired how the training applies to real-world tasks.

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Jay asked what incoming students are most interested in learning.
Margarita shared resources available through WorkSource.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Carl recommended that the group schedule a DACUM (Developing a Curriculum) session annually, ideally in Q1, starting with an industry-only session followed by a college review meeting.

Jay asked who would oversee this effort, and he and Carl agreed to collaborate on facilitating the DACUM process.

John inquired about instructor experience, and Carl confirmed that all instructors have relevant industry backgrounds.

BYLAWS

Alyssa noted that the bylaws were reviewed and approved during the summer meeting. Elizabeth displayed the finalized version.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM

Prepared by Elizabeth Flores