



WELDING TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES
Wednesday, June 9th, 2021 * Noon to 1:30 P.M.
Zoom Online (Audio/Video)

Members Present (Welding): Laramie Lexow, Shopman Ironworkers Local 516; Jason Petersen, Vigor Industrial PDX; Mark Stanley, Columbia Machine; Seth Thompson, SW WA Pipe Trades;

Members Present (Machining): Matthew White, Boeing Portland

Members Absent: Bill Dykstra (Committee Chair), Praxair; Kale Park, Columbia Steel Services (Vice Chair); John Gaynor, Swan Island Sheet Metal; Zane Michael, Motoman Robotics; Sonny Curtis, Ironworkers Local #29; James Duncan, Frontier Metal Fabrications, Inc.; Nathan Marks, Mark Brothers, Inc.; David Patterson, Mt View HS; Paul Sibley, 360 Sheet Metal; Gary Stone, Stone Consulting Services; Michael Williams, Samson Sports

Clark College: Caleb White, Department Head; Wade Hausinger, Brian McVay, Welding Instructor; Armetta Burney, Interim Dean of Workforce & CTE; Wende Fisher, Advising; Renee Schiffhauer, Advising; SueAnn McWatters, Program Specialist

SueAnn McWatters called the meeting to order at 12:08pm and introductions were made.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of December 8th, 2020 were presented: Jason Peterson made a motion for approval, Seth Thompson seconded and was unanimously approved.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The committee will next meet on **Wednesday, December 8th, 2021.**
This meeting was postponed.

OFFICE OF INSTRUCTION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Armetta Burney made the following announcements:

Many of the courses have been conducted in a hybrid modality; some in person (labs) and some online. As the college moves into fall term, there will be more of a face to face on campus as well as classes that will be in a hybrid modality. The college sent out a survey to about 7,100 students and about 1,400 responded. 37% of those students indicated that they wanted to come back to campus face to face, 27% wanted a mixture of online and face to face and 21% wanted to stay completely

online. In the fall, the college is offering 1,876 class sections with about 600 of those classes will be offered in a face to face or hybrid modality. Many of the CTE programs, including the automotive program, will be returning 100% face to face.

Commencement will be on June 17th. There is an option where students can walk in person. No visitors are allowed.

The college has finally received approval from the legislature for the funds to start construction on the Advanced Manufacturing Center at Boschma Farms in Ridgefield, WA. There is a possibility that building will break ground in late fall.

Dr. Sachi Horback is no longer with Clark. Dr. Genevieve Howard is now serving as the interim Vice President of Instruction. It is expected that the job announcement for the VPI position as well as several other positions will be released in the fall.

The college has received funding from the American Rescue Plan. 50% of that funding will go to support the institution and the other 50% will go directly to students.

The college is still going through a budget process. Each unit was asked to identify what a 5% reduction would like in each of their areas. The Budget Committee will prioritize that list and then come back to what they recommend in terms of budget reductions. The good news is that none of the programs will be eliminated. There will likely be some changes in positions and potential cuts.

WELDNG DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Vigor Training

The program signed an MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with Vigor where they will offer training. Wade and Caleb developed two courses: one is welding and fabrication and then another aluminum and fabrication course. Starting July, there are already 10 Vigor employees signed up to take pipe welding to help with their job and training needs. They will be in the lab two days a week for the welding and fabrication and the lecture will be one day a week online.

Vigor will also be conducting interviews with students. There are 17 students graduating so all of them will get a chance to do an interview.

Customized Training

Someone from industry came to the program looking for customized training for two of their apprentices. It went very well. If industry has a certain skill set that is needed for their employees, the program could potentially do some targeted training. Wade Hausinger had three students come in and did a gas metal arc welding course. There were two different courses intertwining very well.

Caleb asked the industry members if there is any other customized training coming out that might be needed. Seth Thompson appreciated the program's curriculum on pipe welding. His organization is struggling to get good employees and are having to do a lot of outside contracting (subcontractors). Other applications would also be semi-auto processes. Mark Stanley suggested robotic welding. The program does have a one station, but it has been a rough start. He was hoping

for more robotic programming and process thinking. That would be very helpful to their organization. If there are any other recommendations, please let Caleb or Brian know.

Women in Advanced Manufacturing

Automotive, Diesel and Welding are hosting a Women in Advanced Manufacturing event on September 9th, 2021, from 6:00-9:00pm. Caleb asked any of the industry members if there were any women in their organizations that would be interested in this event. They'll get to tour the programs and then each program will present a 45-minute lab activity. Seth Thompson stated that he might have some women that would be interested.

Advanced Manufacturing Update

There is funding for the building. It was approved just recently. It will be for 70,000 square foot building with a budget of \$53.2 million. With construction and material costs being so high, the hope is that the college can still hit close to the amount. The building will contain robotics, subtractive manufacturing, additive manufacturing, supply chain management and renewable energy programs. It will also have training for material science, CADD, mechatronics related courses, rapid prototyping, programming, etc. September will have design build teams that are interested in the project. It will be announced a week later. The design should be completed by early August of 2022. The building should be complete in August 2024, and then it will open in September 2024.

AWS Welding Comp – Brian McVay

Brian McVay spoke on going to Idaho for a district conference. The American Welding Society is putting a lot of money towards Welding competitions. There are five \$1,000 scholarships they award to the students. There is potential for Clark to receive all those scholarships if no one else applies. The goal is to get Mt. Hood, Clackamas, PCC and Clark to have a competition at the Clark College campus. There would be a judge from each college. The weld processes would to TIG and Flux-core.

MACHINING DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Teachout Update

Last term was the last quarter for the Machining teachout. There might be some non-credit training for Machining in the future.

INDUSTRY UPDATES

Seth Thompson stated that they just finished up the school year and was mostly in person. There has been a hold for new apprentices, while current apprentices are staying busy.

Laramie Lexow explained that they represent nine shops in the Portland metro area, five shops in Seattle and more shops in Montana and Wyoming so he sees a lot of trends. The industry is very slow right now since COVID happened. A lot of shops are in a hiring freeze. There will be a hard need for employees for end of summer/beginning of fall. Now is a good time for the students to really hone their schools.

Jason Petersen stated that they had to postpone a few cruise ships. The jobs didn't slow down too much, but at Vigor, things seem to be okay as they are also picking up military contracts.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:04pm.

Prepared by SueAnn McWatters