

Welding Advisory Committee Minutes
Tuesday, October 29, 2019
4:00 pm
Brooklyn Park Campus

I. Call to order

The advisory committee meeting called to order at 4:04 pm on Tuesday, October 29th, 2019 by Chris Hensiak.

II. Introductions

All members present introduced themselves and the company they represent.

Industry:	Fred Wizlo	
	Scott Studaker	Oxygen Service Co.
	Frank Wymore	Fabex
	Jed Dotterer	Caterpillar
	Mike Mueller	Praxair

College:	Chris Hensiak
	Paul Gotzian
	Alison Leintz
	Rich Kelly
	Don Ealey
	Amanda Robinson

III. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from last meeting read. Frank motioned to accept the minutes, Jed seconded, Approved.

IV. Where is the Welding Program currently?

A. Enrollment

Chris talked about enrollment – getting better. Alison said that school is doing intrusive (aka proactive) advising and digital advertising on radio and Facebook. Also said that numbers are not dramatically lower and that 50% of students are repeat from earlier semester, focus is on a career not just getting a job.

Discussed internships and upscaling for workers who are already employed.

B. Welding Recruitment

Jed brought up working with high school industrial arts programs and growing them. Discussion of how to get students with mechanical abilities, but who are not wanting to go to a four year college. Alison brought up having high school students come to HTC for a professional development day to check us out. Group discussed ideas. Alison also wanted to note that we now have the 1st generation of parents still paying off their student loans for college as their children are starting college. That could help in steering more students to HTC.

C. Advanced Class offerin - Robotic Welding Level 2 update

Fifteen students have gone through the 1st level. Mike Mueller said that for advanced level we need another robot. He asked industry people present if not having ABB curriculum be a problem? Jed answered “no”. Getting the fundamentals down and the methodology of robots was good for Caterpillar.

D. Equipment

Looking at:

- Buying a Panasonic robot for variety.
- Getting CRAW T Certification for robotics
- Getting new GTAW machines. Current machines are about 10 years old.

Have gotten new flowmeters and hoses, CNC plasma table upgrade.

F. Material (donations)

Donations were discussed. We get a lot from Caterpillar – THANK YOU!

Recycling – sent in aluminum and stainless steel hoppers

V. Additional Items

Jed mentioned that his welding department is seeing a lot more undercut on welds. Asked HTC welding department to work on that with our students. Agreed and discussion followed.

VI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Fred Wizlo and seconded by Scott Studaker, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:56 pm.