

Minnesota West Community & Technical College
Diesel Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 10, 2009

Members Present: Dave Goebel, Berry Erickson, Cliff VanBeeks, Jerry Fogelson, Marv Swanson, Jer Javens

Students: Travis Erickson, Alex Madison

Faculty: Dennis Hampel, Rebecca Weber, Peter Girard, and Lyle Kruse

General Discussion: Gus Condezo distributed the Minnesota West information flyer, along with the Certificates, Diploma, and Associate of Applied Science Degree schedule for Diesel Technology – Ag & Truck – for Canby Campus, to the group before lunch was served. He stated that enrollment was up in the Diesel department; the Auto program is ending at the end of this school year, although the support of the community and campus are still strong.

Becky described the other programs: Customized Training has been moved to Canby campus in the old Electrical building, along with the Nursing Assistant program; the main building has been updated due to the moves of the departments including Wind, Electrical and the LARC; Electrical and Wind share certain courses and instructors to implement complete learning. She explained that Gus is our interim marketer until Katie Delaney is complete with her duties with the Wind department endeavors.

Becky stated that a Civil Rights Audit occurred and was a success; the needs of the students are being met. Carr Residence Hall houses 32 students total, and has recently had siding and shingling updates.

Recruitment: Jerry inquired about a packet for the student that states the exact cost per student for the Diesel program at Canby. It would be important for those offering a student a sponsorship at this particular campus, knowing the exact cost per semester. Becky asked about scholarship specifics/needs: designate specific scholarship details (books, tools); criteria of grades; incoming or returning students; Foundation person involvement. Statement was made that sponsorship, rather than scholarship, expects an accomplishment for this degree and will receive this much money. Dennis stated that WIA site directs all diesel programs throughout MN with exact costs, yet it is considered outdated. It is supposedly updated in the spring.

Dave discussed details about recruitments, explaining what Jerry expected with tools and he also agreed. The original agreement with the tool company is to buy per student instead of through the school, creates a responsibility issue with a secure zone until the student shows up for class. A requirement should be made for the tool company for what needs to be bought. If the school could cooperate, it would make it easier to accommodate. Becky thought Gus could put something together.

Audit Report: Dennis had written a Handbook about Advisory Committees and it was used as a basis to look at us. Eight issues were addressed. The Roster was last updated 8/08, the roster phone numbers and email addresses need to be forwarded to the Legislative Auditor.

The Committee should have 6 – 12 people, new and retiring process is 3 – 5 years of the members, meeting frequency of 1 – 2 times a year. Pete stated that there is low turnover because the members are an asset and work well together. The Budget has changed from \$17000 last year to \$17650 this year: Technology Fund \$3000, Foundation \$2000 for new tools. Dennis has a holding account. The College sets the budget, Dennis would rather industry be a part of budget decisions rather than the Advisory committee, it is based on average cost funding, cost per student per program, with a range of 95% - 112% with a variable of students.

The Committee composition should be students, industry, campus manager, high school or university person, work force center (those who place after schooling). All don't need to be voting members, maybe just industry.

Gender and diversity needs to be addressed. Actively solicit people of different gender and diversity to be on the committee.

Committee activity can help program show new items through recruitment, expertise, demonstration; faculty internships keep faculty current. Industry is 100% free to update the instructors.

Review the Committee Fall 2010. Pete will be asking industry for names. Set a goal to replace committee members with minority/woman members. Jerry understands the differences in social interests, lifestyle may be different. Dave commented that on a different committee he was on, after 5 years, they had to find their own replacement; different person, different ideas.

Program changes: Auto will not continue Fall 2010, so Pete and Lyle explained the course schedule changes that affect the Diesel program. Repeatedly it was expressed that students prefer hands on with motors/machinery that is brought in, rather than what is already here. Committee agreed that a CDL is important for all students to get- course to be offered beginning 1st year; all students should have to drive a machine before leaving – Jackson gives one credit for getting a permit.

Canby was commended on a well done job when machines are returned to implements fixed.

Students need to be aware that certification/knowledge is ongoing, updates are continual – parts and mechanics.

Use of laptops in the shop was discussed.

Internship was expressed as important for all students – business operation and hands on.

Becky mentioned to the group that a substitute should be considered in case of extreme circumstance were to happen for instructors. A retired mechanic would be a choice (Marv).

60/120: Diesel programs in the state are similar. AAS degrees are being left until 2012 (70 to 72 credits). January proposal needs to stay or go up in credits, consistency is needed. Diesel programs will have training in the spring.

Diesel Extravaganza raises money for the students to spend on the students. With the Auto program closing, tools that were bought with Diesel will stay, the computers will be brought to Diesel, and inventory of Auto will be decided if needed here, otherwise will be sold outside the facility.

Pete and Lyle would like to lease out a tractor after the first of the year, industry said yes. Pete thought students would like to work on trade units from implements, actual machines that are going back out for sale draw more interest among students rather than the same semi. Lyle commended the GPS example brought in.