

**Minnesota West Community & Technical College  
Electrician Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Members: Al Aaneneson, Trevor Humphrey, Doug Lutterman, Kory Rawstern, Chris Svoboda, Andy Toft, Bob Walsh, Bob Wolf, Joe Yeske, along with faculty.**

**November 4, 2010** Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Judy Drown, Instructor-MN West; Jerry Deuschle, Instructor-MN West; Rob Arp, Instructor-MN West; Joe Yeske, ECHO Electric Supply; Trevor Humphrey, Muth Electric; Kory Rawstern-IBEW Business Rep, Dennis Hampel, Minnesota West-Dean of Career and Technical programs

*Next meeting:* Spring or Fall 2011

---

Welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming and serving on our advisory board for MN West electrical programs.

**Objectives and Role of the Advisory Committee** – The advisory committee should be made of people in the electrical industry and the committee shall be run by the committee with input from faculty. A member should hold the Chairperson position. The Chairperson should call the meeting and make the agenda. It was agreed to keep the secretary position in house with faculty of MN West.

**Election of Secretary** – Rob Arp agreed to serve a one year term as secretary.

**Job Market/Projects Outlook** – Everyone agreed that there seems to be adequate work through the end of the year. However there was concern by the members about the amount of work into late winter and spring. Trevor said that Muth Electric remains quite busy, especially in the Brookings area due to the volume of work at SDSU.

**Program Length** – The Electrician diploma and AAS programs at Minnesota West are the highest in the state. Members inquired as to why this is the case. Faculty members explained; part of it is mandated by the Dept. of Labor and partly college policy in terms of general education requirements. The area of greatest concern focused on the inequity between schools in the state. Minnesota West is following state mandated guidelines while some programs are not. It was agreed that this must be addressed with the Department of Labor and Industry.

**AC/DC 1&2** – Jim Brewers spoke about the new course arrangement. Jim has changed the course to span over two semesters. Previously the content was delivered in the fall semester only. Jim also noted that the new course would allow him to begin AC during the fall and continue on into the spring. The goal is to increase student understanding.

**NOCTI-** The results of the NOCTI examinations were reviewed. The faculty was proud to report that both campuses scored slightly above the state and national averages.

**Retention** – Dennis Hampel said the overall retention in the electrician programs on both campuses must be addressed. The faculty needs to find out “why” the students are not completing the program. The faculty will investigate and see if they can determine what might cause some of the retention issues.

**IBEW curriculum-** The IBEW in Minnesota approached MNSCU about partnering to offer an AAS degree through the IBEW apprenticeship program. This was a concern for the faculty due to the fact that the programs are already capped due to concerns of the IBEW about producing too many graduates. Kory said that he had not heard of this. It did not make sense and he would do some checking.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rob Arp