



## Welding/Manufacturing Advisory Committee Minutes

*Growing jobs, careers, communities...*

DATE: March 17, 2022  
TIME: 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.  
LOCATION: Via Zoom (<https://siskiyous-edu.zoom.us/j/98552081451>)  
COMMITTEE CHAIR: TBD  
PROGRAM COORDINATOR: Thad Wallace  
STAFF: Christina Van Alfen, Dean CTE  
Note taker: Courtney Williamson

Present: Anne Marie Acord, Courtney Williamson, Marie Caldwell, Nick Riddle, Nick Scoma, Erin King, Abbi Nowdesha, Thad Wallace, Josh Collins, Bright Nichols-Stock, Mark Klever, Christina Van Alfen, Bryan Strait, Trenten Hayden, Danielle Clair, Trish Falcone

Absent:

### Agenda:

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1. Introductions
2. Review and approve minutes of the previous meeting (**attachment**)  
**Christina: motion to approve- Bright, Second – Thad. Approved**
3. Identify new Chair – **did not do**
4. Perkins Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment- (**handouts**) Van Alfen  
**Christina: Required by Chancellor's Office and Perkins to look at labor market data, student success, program overall. Three things: jobs that have wages above the living wage, jobs available, not training more people than there are jobs. Currently above living wage, expected to increase by 8%, oversupply of certs/degrees in Far North. Share of infographic. 3% projected growth, top 10 employers in field, hardest to fill jobs, most in demand, desired certs.**  
**AS, COA, Adv COA offered at COS.**  
**Do we need to consider additional pathways of study?**  
**How can we recruit, retain and train professionals including unrepresented groups.**  
**Size, Scope, Quality. Do we have enough resources to provide what's needed in program?**  
**Is what we have sufficient for what we need?**  
**Are there multiple ways for people to enter and exit program?**  
**"Stackable certs"?**  
**Meeting two of the three: high skilled individuals, high wage jobs, are positions in demand?**  
**Are there gaps in our S, S, Q? What is needed to improve? What changes might be made?**  
**Two types of student performance: Chancellor's and Perkins. Perkins focus is on special populations**  
**Share of Launchboard, graphs, trends (Chancellor's)**  
**Perkins wants to see**  
**Basically all groups are LOW**  
**Also struggling with students finishing degree, earning employment.**

**All info and 8 questions will be sent to Committee after meeting.**

**5. Input from Advisory Committee Members - Questions, comments? None**

- a. Workplace trends/ current skill expectations

**6. Welding Program**

- a. Update – **Current classes missing Welding 0958**

- b. Industry input on degrees/certificates

i. **Advanced Welding Certificate of Achievement (attachment)**

- Addition of WELD 0958 for Advanced Welding Cert (**attachment**)
- English 1001- College composition as a requirement – **if you want a Welding cert you just take Welding and English. If you want a degree, you have to take core Welding and general. Is English 1001 necessary for certificate?**

**Bryan: Reading and symbol deciphering is mandatory. Associated technical verbiage that goes with it. English is definitely a basic requirement for success in our environment.**

**Christina: Josh what do you think?**

**Josh: I do think it's a barrier. I don't find it to be an appropriate English class. It's College Composition, not business communication related, not the right English class for a Welding cert.**

**Bryan: I agree. Should be more of reading and writing and understanding the English language.**

**Josh: had a student that refused to take English just wanted to Weld.**

**Christina: probably why we see so much enrollment and not so much completion for degrees and certificates.**

ii. **MATH "10" Contemporary Math for Tech Fields vs MATH 0980 (attachments)**

**Christina: Running into the same issue with math - remove Intermediate Algebra and find a more appropriate math class.**

**Josh: Business Communication?**

**Christina: just re-approved at Board meeting. Will see if that'll work better than Int algebra/English 1001. Will show Thad to see if he things that would work better for welding students.**

**Christina: Field Pipe Welding II was not part of the Advanced Welding Cert. Is it necessary to be a part of the program?**

**Thad: locally do we need to get a Pipe II class? Asking for direction from others on the call...**

**Bryan: Defer to Trish or Nick**

**Trish: that is a Nick Scoma question, in my opinion I haven't used a lot of the advanced pipe welding skills I've learned at COS but don't think it's something we shouldn't include in our curriculum.**

**Nick: Specifically at Nor-Cal, the advanced pipe welding wouldn't be a requirement. Part of cert of achievement or degree?**

**Christina: Certificate of Achievement for Advance I (per Josh), not II**

**Nick: personal preference class if that's the direction they'd want to go. I don't think it should be a part of the curriculum to advance. Class I is sufficient.**

**Christina: Pipe I is sufficient, Pipe II could be offered as a stand alone class if enough need/desire.**

**Nick: great option just to achieve time under the hood. Tailored to specific student need.**

**Thad: I agree. If the local industry needs it, then we could put that class out**

**Christina: we can do contract ed with employers for very specific skill and advancement training.**

**Topics covered in Intermediate Algebra (long list), current requirements...what we have found as an option as a transferable math that another community college uses—shared list. It would be offered as an alternative to the Intermediate Algebra. Would this be a more appropriate math?**

**Trish: what was shared is much more applicable than what we require now**

**Bryan: I agree with Trish**

**Josh: how it reads in our requirements is intermediate algebra or higher, which is technically statistics--this class IS NOT statistics. Does it need to be transferable if it's CTE specific?**

**Christina: Not sure. This is the initial part of the bigger convo**

- 7. Advanced Manufacturing Program – Christina: We are struggling to find people to teach. Need input from Nor-Cal. Are there enough jobs if they attend this program? Is what we're training people for, are they going to be able to take the skills and go somewhere else? Are there other needs for machinists in our local economy and what do those skills need to look like?**
- What are your thoughts on this program?**
- Bryan: I don't want to monopolize this convo**
- Nick Scoma: starting to get robotics at NC, general understanding of CAD and CNC would help potential employees. Good fundamentals for a welding operator**
- Bryan: for the region, Northern California and Southern Oregon there are a number of competitors that use both the welding application and the machining or CAD design. There are other companies and similar industries that are struggling to staff these skills as well**
- Christina: how do you find your employees?**
- Bryan & Scoma: yes, all of the above**
- Erin: we're expanding things and developing programs at NC where hopefully NC will be where COS students are coming to next**
- Bryan: walking into Nor-Cal and seeing that many Welders and Machinists is amazing. I would love to help bridge the gap of instructors, maybe our leaders can be compensated to help build the programs. A lot of opportunities to get creative. Recruiting from the outside.**
- Danielle: we've used external recruiters that specialize in welding and machinists, low supply high demand in the nation. Both candidates fell out because of housing in the area. More talent locally that is acclimated for the regions needs.**
- Riddle: architecture and engineering fields are significantly different, from a CAD and design drafting stand point, communication/understanding, ability to use computers, we do most of our work on a computer. It's near impossible to find professionals who are qualified and can do the technical side of drafting. An engineer/architect does a lot of their own design as you go. In our firm now, there isn't enough work to drive the business from a 3-4 person business to a 10 person business. Just hired a local guy who moved back up, jumping between architecture and civil engineering side. It's such a broad field.**

**Christina:** there are possibilities, we've blended manufacturing and the computer side (CAD). We can build certs or skill packages that can go in different directions. We'd need to know for drafting: the different skills that are needed, what classes so they'd be hireable and useful

**Bryan:** there are some programs where they jump between the two, lots of software

**Christina:** Marie and Bright helped originally with creating a pathway in high schools

**Josh:** our AS degree and Adv Welding requires CSCI for the degree. Need to think about computer skillsets that are applicable for the field.

**Thad:** I have to have students that can do an email, create a Word document

**Danielle:** a lot of employers are moving to more self-serviced system, they need skills to exist in this environment rather than just in the field.

**Christina:** is there an entry level position at NC and what's necessary?

**Danielle:** entry level are manufacturing support positions. People usually start in orbital weld, need to demonstrate aptitude for development.

**Scoma:** Danielle hit it perfectly. Support departments are entry-level, helps them learn the process. Cross training is important so they learn all of the parts and pieces. Lots of skills that surround welding.

**Christina:** who we should work with at NC to start developing relationship.

**Danielle:** depends on the conversation. Nick Scoma is welding expert – performance readiness is a focus.

**Scoma:** accurate

**Christina:** on the manufacturing side, who would that contact be?

**Scoma:** Trenten Hayden

**Danielle:** when you email Nick and Trent, email Erin.

**Scoma:** Trisha is an amazing resource

**Thad:** I pulled her in for that reason

**Christina:** parting thoughts?

**Marie:** we're really thankful that NC is willing to partner.

**Scoma:** thank you and you guys are on the right track. Pleased to see conversations happen

**Christina:** thank you everyone for attending!

a. Current class offerings

- i. MFG1010 - Introduction to Computer Aided Design
- ii. MFG1020 - Introduction to Manual Machining
- iii. MFG1112 - Advanced Computer Aided Design
- iv. MFG1130 - Introduction to CNC Machining
- v. MFG1232 - Intermediate CNC Machining
- vi. MFG1240 - Advanced Manual Machining
- vii. MFG1340 - Special Projects in CNC Machining
- viii. MFG1350 - Entrepreneurial Manufacturing

b. Changes to align to needs of industry partners

8. CTE Update- Van Alfen

9. Advisory Committee Member Recruitment

10. Adjourn and Thank You!