

Automotive Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes

May 6, 2009

AT 129

6:30-8:30pm

Members present: Ryan Thomson, Marco Freitas, John Miller, , Jose Castillo, Kenneth Johnson, and Joe Wasetis. Absent: Keith Hodge, Ken Rocha, Robert Barerra.

Action Items

1. Approval of Minutes.

Approved.

2. Approval of Curriculum Updates.

Approved. (note: the Curriculum Committee approved the CLO's as written)

Discussion Items:

1. Tools and Equipment Survey

2. Equipment Acquisition Timelines

Mike Richards distributed the survey results delineating the type and brand of tools and equipment found in local repair shops. There was some discussion about the relevance and availability of Ignition Analyzing Oscilloscopes, basically that although they are still in use and required by NATEF most brand names no longer produce this equipment. The industry current trend is towards smaller hand held DSO's with ignition adapters which C/R AT Program is severely lacking in. Furthermore, the MCA 3000 Ignition Analyzer quit working near the end of the semester and there was no money in the budget to generate a service call. Committee members asked if administration was aware of the program needs and had identified a funding source. Richards explained that the need to upgrade equipment had been well documented in the Transportation Technologies Measure "Q" Bond Proposal, which was approved, as well as the recent Comprehensive Program Review document, submitted for planning and resource allocation purposes. He reiterated that Ron Cox, acting VP Business Services, previously denied the AT program access to the Bond funds however, through advice he received from acting VP Academic Affairs Keith Snow-Flamer he would be applying for funding through VTEA and/or an Instructional Block Grant.

Ryan Thomson stated that the Snap On Modis was far superior to the OTC Genisys and questioned the purchase of inferior equipment. Richards pointed out that half of the shops surveyed used that tool as it was considerably less expensive and training should prepare students to effectively use common equipment.

3. NATEF Annual Facility, Tools, and Equipment Evaluation

Committee members conducted a walk through of the AT shop and commented on tools and/or equipment relative to current industry trends. The need for training on the types of equipment included in the survey became very clear and all committee members expressed support for the effort to upgrade tools and equipment.

4. Training Vehicle Fleet Review

Mike explained that the fleet is aging and minimally adequate for NATEF Standards as we should be doing much more with OBD II systems. There is a definite need to upgrade the fleet and a marketing campaign may be launched locally soon. Members were encouraged to pursue any leads or pass on information to Mike about possible running, driveable, OBD II compliant vehicles that might be available for donation.

5. Future Meeting Dates.

Members indicated no strong preferences for meeting times.

Meeting adjourned.