

College of the Redwoods
Automotive Technology Program
Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
May 16, 2012
Room AT129

Meeting Called to order at 6:33pm

Members present: John Miller, Michael Richards, Prudence Ratliff, Jeff Cummings, Tony Colella, Jose Castillo, Oliver Taylor, Ken Rocha, Dan Williams, Paul Hidy

Action Items:

1. Approval of Minutes:

The minutes were distributed for review and after review John Miller made a motion to approve the minutes and Jose Castillo seconded the motion. Minutes were unanimously approved. Michael thanked the members for their participation in the meetings.

Discussion Items:

2. NATEF Mid-Term Compliance Review:

Michael recapped the self study and the review process. He indicated that NATEF approved our mid-term compliance review. Michael indicated our numbers of members in attendance at our meetings has been low. NATEF specifies we need to have a minimum of 5 members present at each meeting. John recommended we contact Jake at Lithia about membership on our committee. Mike made a note to contact Jake regarding membership.

3. Tools and Equipment:

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a. AutoEnginuity Scan tools:

Mike indicated we purchased two laptops with CTEA funds and the Auto Enginuity software for each laptop. We have the laptops loaded with the software but have not had time to take the product for a test drive yet. We are also planning to look at manufacturer specific scan tool software that we can use on the laptops. Ken indicated he has four different manufacturers software running on his laptop. The only problem he

indicated was with using the Jaguar vehicle program. Mike asked if anyone had heard about Toughbooks. Tony indicated Ford is using Toughbooks. Ford has switched to laptop based scantool software. Ken indicated GM is still using the Tech2 for certain year models. Ken indicated he runs the Chrysler software on a dedicated laptop. Ken said to check with NASTEF. Ford IDS runs \$700 per year. GM is \$1395 annually. Jose asked what happens if you don't update the software? Ken said the software still works with the Ford and GM without updating. Toyota requires that you renew the subscription each year for the software to continue to run.

b. Dyno

Mike indicated to the group that we need a drive on dynamometer to run monitors. Students cannot test drive vehicles to run monitors and located vehicle problems. He elaborated on the safety issues that occur with students driving shop vehicles. Jose indicated when he attend CR students were able to test drive vehicles. However, due to a past incident with a student drifting in the parking lot campus security was involved and this deterred future student test drives. Oliver asked what type of dyno we are considering. The roller dyno's can be dangerous. He suggested we look at a hub dyno. Mike indicated we will look into this type of equipment. Jeff commented on the fact that it only takes one incident/accident to create a problem with administration and a program is targeted as trouble on campus. Mike further commented that a dyno is essential to running vehicle drive cycles and is the current process used in industry to do this.

5. Measure Q Update:

Mike did a recap on the 350K allocation to automotive. He indicated our lack of space in our current facility is well known. Discussion on campus with administration our currently ongoing to allow automotive to move into and expand into the current printing and marketing room next door to the auto lab. Jeff commented that our new president is on page with this move. Jeff indicated we need to develop a comprehensive plan to move forward with our plan to move into the printing and marketing room. John and Carlos asked what we plan to do in the new area. Mike described our plan to place the dyno in the room, a drivetrain clean room for transmission labs, also an area to teach fluid exchange service. John asked if we planned to put a vehicle lift in the new room. Mike indicated the room ceiling is probably not high enough for a vehicle lift. Mike mentioned we plan to replace our outdated lifts in the existing lab. Specifically the one in-ground "service station" type lift and the outdated above ground lift behind the alignment rack. Jose asked who wants the printing marketing room. Mike explained the initial need as per administration was to use the building for faculty offices. However, since retirements the need for more faculty offices is probably dwindling. John asked if we could put doors from the existing shop into the printing marketing room. Jeff indicated we could.

Mike updated the group on a site work estimate he obtained for repurposing the Diesel. He also recapped the problems with drainage in the shop and other expensive needs the Diesel lab requires for repurposing. John agreed that the diesel lab would be too costly to update and the best choice is to focus on obtaining the printing services room. Jeff advised the committee to make a motion to move forward on obtaining the printing services room. John Miller made a motion to do such. Oliver Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

John asked if we had a ATF recycler. Mike asked Ken what type of recycler he had. Mike indicated if we have a coolant recycler it places us on an EPA list. Ken indicated we need to have reclaiming equipment that all shops are using. Ken described the type of equipment he is using. Asbury is the company that Ken uses for waste fluid pick up. Tony and Jose asked for clarification. Ken indicated the machine exchanges the fluids not recycles it. The waste fluid is then picked up and recycled by Asbury or Safety Kleen. Ken and Tony reinforced that we need to teach students how to use this equipment as everyone is doing it in shops today. Jose indicated it is so important that we get the equipment that is out in industry here in our program. Ken indicated his machines run constantly. John indicated we need to should move forward with obtaining these machines and teaching students to use them. Tony added we also need a recycler for brake fluid also. Ken indicated he uses copper dip sticks to verify fluid conditions. Tony indicated there service writers use a fluid sample tray that displays all the vehicle fluids for customer sales.

a. Hybrid Vehicles:

Mike indicated the need for our program to have hybrid vehicles to train students on this new technology. Used hybrids are difficult to purchase in the used market using college funds as these vehicles do not stay on the market for only a few days. Mike indicated he was going to approach Trevor Harper at Harper Ford about possibly purchasing via auto auctions. John indicated that hybrid vehicles are scheduled to be auctioned at DGS and we may be able to obtain these hybrids from this state agency. John explained the process and indicated we may be able to make this happen. Jeff described the difficulties of buying a vehicle using college funds in the open market. John mentioned we would need special equipment to work on these hybrids. Mike mentioned that we attended a hybrid training session and we have a pretty good idea of what tools we need.

b. Tools & Equipment

Power probes were recommended by Oliver. He uses them to test window regulators and other electric motor driven accessories. Tony agreed that

he liked using them. Ken seconded the need for them. They are very handy. Mike asked if they are computer safe. All agreed they are not the best for this environment. Ken indicated the tool had a circuit breaker. Mike indicated to the group our plan to move toward purchasing modular trainers due to the fact we cannot keep up with vehicle technologies since the cost of updating vehicle is not financially possible with the college budget. Jose asked what we do with our old outdated equipment. He wondered if we could sell the old equipment and make some money for the program. Mike explained the college surplus equipment sale process to the group.

c. Expansion

Mike indicated this was covered in discussion item #4.

Tony asked if we had smoke testers. Mike indicated we have 6 units. Jose indicated smoke testers are very useful in the field for varied tests and a good tool to teach our students to use.

Tony asked about our ability to teach TPMS. Mike indicated we do not and need to obtain this type of technology. John indicated the Prius has electric power steering. Mike indicated our hopes are that through the acquisition of hybrids may move us closer to having these technologies to teach our students.

6. Outcomes/Assessment

Mike updated the group on our work in Course learning and program learning outcomes. Mike presented the work he has done on the AT28 course learning outcomes. He explained the assessments performed and how he evaluated the process. The group asked questions about the process and seemed to be interested in the outcomes and our efforts. Jeff commented on the amount of work being done by the automotive faculty is to be commended.

7. Professional Development:

Ken asked if we are doing any training after hours for technician updating. Mike indicated we are always open to the needs of the technicians in our area. Jeff indicated to the group that any needs they may have to let us know and we would work toward making it happen.

Mike updated the group on our plan to attend NACAT this year in Texas. He described the conference and the opportunities it provides us for professional development. Mike updated the group on our recent attendance at the CAT conference and the opportunity to obtain some newer transmissions for our classes.

Oliver asked what hybrid models are covered in the training classes. Mike indicated they focus on the Toyota Prius and Honda Civics. He referenced to the recent class we offered here at CR with Craig VanBatenburg and the other classes offered through Perfect Sky.

Adjournment 8:22pm