

College of the Redwoods
Automotive Technology Program
Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
February 29, 2012
Room AT129

Meeting Called to order at 7:25pm

Members present: John Miller, Michael Richards, Jeff Cummings, Joe Mulleary, Tony Colella, Oliver Taylor, Dan Williams, Jose Castillo, and 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 Tony Colella seconded the motion. Minutes were unanimously approved.

2. NATEF Self Study:

Every 2.5 years our Automotive program has to complete a NATEF Mid-Term Compliance Review and Advisory Committee participation is essential to the process. Mike Richards presented the results of the self-study report and thanked advisory committee members Tony Colella, Ryan Thompson, and Kenneth Johnson for their participation and support. Mike explained why we need to perform a self-study and said that we have improved in several areas since the last self-study. Upon review and discussion of the documents John Miller made a motion to approve the NATEF self-study and Tony Colella seconded the motion. The self-study was unanimously approved and will be sent to NATEF for review.

Discussion Items:

3. Smog Program Update:

Paul discussed our new Smog Program that is run through the Community Education side of the college. He stated there were only three technicians who signed up for the first class due to some issues with not advertising. The class will need to have a minimum of eight enrolled in order to run the course, since it is on the non-credit side of the college. John asked what will happen to our Smog Program once the emissions test changes in 2013. This will not affect our Smog Program and how we offer courses. Mike Richards pointed out that this program exists largely due to Paul's persistence and Julia Peterson's help with the

Headwaters Grant and he commended Paul for getting the Program going. Advisory members present voiced their support for the program as it will serve the local industry well.

4. Prometric ASE Testing:

Paul talked about how we are now offering ASE testing online here at the college. Initially during January and February, tests were offered on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. There were no problems during the first testing period and since we are a satellite test center. We are making \$4 per test hour right now. This is a service to help the local technician's when it comes to offering a location in Humboldt County for ASE testing now that it is only offered online. Several committee members had some questions pertaining to the specifics of the testing and the feedback was positive. It was evident that Paul was the only member that had previously taken an ASE exam using the new online format.

5. Measure Q Update:

Mike discussed the 2006 Measure Q Bond, and brought the committee up-to-date with the current status of the funds that were initially allocated to the CTE areas at the college. He brought up that our program was initially granted about \$2,500,000 to expand the facilities and improve the program as a whole but, funds were diverted to seismic upgrading of other buildings. Now that the buildings are nearing completion there was about \$10,000,000 in Measure Q Funds up for re-allocation. We requested \$500,000 for equipment and facility upgrades and were funded \$350,000 of the initial \$500,000 that we applied for. The time has come to figure out how to best spend the money. It was also brought up that the money could be used for repurposing the current Diesel Technology building. Mike thought it would be a good idea to discuss this with the advisory committee and conducted a walk-through of the Diesel Technology building. Mike stated how the current situation in our lab setting limits the number of classes we can offer.

Jeff Cummings addressed to the committee that their input will be seen as a strong voice to the administration. It will definitely steer the direction of the decision of what to do with the money we are being offered. There was not a general consensus, after looking at the Diesel lab, as to which direction we should go as a program.

Some of the issues with the current Diesel facility were discussed. There is a problem on the lower level with water flooding several inches of the floor due to a storm drains backing up and running over the bay door entrances. The current parking situation over there would have to be addressed because of the several levels that exist. John stated that paving and earth moving is going to be extremely expensive, maybe near \$300,000. Dan suggested getting bids to really

see the potential costs of re-doing the parking area. After further brainstorming, the advisory committee as a whole stated that the decision for our program to move to the Diesel facility would be dependent on adequate resources being allocated for that purpose. Oliver suggested taking over the Printing Services building because that way we could at least have increased storage. John stated that his boss would be able to meet-up with us next week in order to give an unofficial opinion of the cost to do the construction work of the paving area.

The committee agreed the priority should be acquiring the necessary equipment in order to keep-up with the technology. It would be the best case scenario to acquire the Diesel Technology lab, but given the monetary constraints, it may be out of the question right now. We are already at the point where our current facility is really lacking the storage space for more equipment. Dan made the final word by saying that the Automotive Technology department should have at least half of the original money the bond measure was going to provide us, which would be \$1.2 million to adequately complete the facility expansion.

6. ACCJC Show Cause:

Mike told the committee about the current problems we have with accreditation. We are now in the “show cause” sanction, which is the most serious level of sanction. This means that the ACCJC is really questioning problems with the college, and the worst case scenario is that the college could actually shut down. Mike clarified has this has to do with the way the college is run and has nothing to do with what goes on in the classroom. This has not affected the quality of the education going on at the college. The faculty and administration are working really hard to get the sanction removed.

7. AT Program Brochure:

Mike passed out some of our new brochures to the committee for feedback. John said the new brochure looked nice and everyone agreed that it looked good. Paul brought up that in the Fall semester he went to the local high schools with our new brochures to promote our program to students. Mike stated that he plans to do the same thing this Spring semester at the local high schools.

8. EV/Hybrid Training Session

Mike discussed what went on during the EV/Hybrid training that went on the last two nights here at the college. It was a positive experience and the class was full.

Adjournment (approximately 10:05pm)