

FALL 2018 Advisory Meeting Minutes

Program: Electrical

October 18, 2018

Location of Meeting: Electrical Shop Room E016

Members:

Chris Antonellis, IBEW/JATC Local 103

Christopher Girard, Electrical Program Graduate, Class of 2013, Project Manager

Socrates Xerras, Licensed Electrician

Casey Lemmel, Rexel Electrical Supply

David Delande, Delande Electrical Supply

Anthony DeGuglielmo, Madison Park High School

Mark Fialkowski, Town of Danvers Inspectional Services, AHJ

Nick Taormina, Roy Spittle Associates Electrical Contractors

Jim McDonnell, Bay State Electric

Brian Cranney, Cranney Companies, Cranney Home Services

David Keenan, Owner Keenan Electric, Parent

Carly Keenan, Student, Class of 2021

Essex Tech Staff:

Andrew Andricopoulos, Electrical Program Instructor

Kevin Gagnon, Electrical Program Instructor

Christos Xerras, Electrical Program Instructor

Agenda Items:

1. Shop/Lab Equipment was reviewed. David Keenan complemented the new LED lighting in the shop area and was impressed that it was installed by students. Chris Girard commented on the drill/driver cordless tool station and thought it was an excellent design.
2. The minutes from the Spring Meeting were reviewed. Nick Taormina made a motion to approve. Motion Passed.
3. The Annual Programmatic Review was discussed. No changes to the current program design were suggested.
4. Data on the Class of 2018 was presented. 23 students graduated from the Electrical Program. Chris Antonellis noted that three graduates are enrolled in the IBEW/JATC (Union) training program. Chris Xerras noted that ten graduates enrolled in the Essex Tech Adult Ed Journeyman training program, one graduate has enlisted in the U.S. Navy, and the remainder are enrolled in various colleges.

5. The Course of Study was reviewed. Brian Cranney commented on the success of the program and requested that: "please keep what you're doing. It works."
6. Student Enrollment/Placement: please see #4 above
7. The local job outlook was discussed with respect to co-op student employees and graduate employees. It was mentioned that the new co-op coordinator, Ms. Lisa Berube as done excellent work in expediting student and employee paperwork for co-op. It was also noted that the need for licensed professionals still exceeds the need for apprentices.
8. An update was given on Outside Program Work and on campus work. Habitat for Humanity has proven to be an excellent experience for students with two homes nearing completion and a third ready to start. On campus work including the jobs in Auto Tech and Collision Repair have been successful and exposed the students to more commercial type work.
9. The Related "theory" class scheduling issue was updated. This has become an ongoing problem. It has been requested for several years that the related class be moved to the student academic week for upper classes. This year it was given consideration, but ultimately the schedule remains the same. This is frustrating as this schedule limits the amount of time a student is eligible to earn towards licensure from the Chapter 74 program. Chris Xerras noted that the new Superintendent seems amenable to reconfiguring the schedule to accommodate this important change.
10. Brian Cranney, Nick Taormina, David Keenan, and Chris Girard were united in discussing retention of employees. Brian Cranney noted that there will always be a certain percentage of students/employees who decide to pursue other career pathways. Chris Xerras outlined some strategies to allow students to use the skills learned in the Electrical Program to work in other areas or earn college credits.
11. The employment outlook remains positive with all members present agreeing that the biggest issue facing the Electrical Industry is the lack of licensed professionals. Nick Taormina, David Keenan, and Brian Cranney stressed the importance of developing quality candidates for employment who are invested and licensable.
12. Ms. Teixeira, Ms. Riccio, and Ms. Holman visited the meeting. Ms. Teixeira and Nick Taormina engaged in a spirited discussion regarding the association between the Gloucester vocational programs and Essex North Shore. It was agreed that both programs could co-exist, with Ms. Riccio noting that a new initiative is planned allowing Gloucester students to take academic classes in Gloucester and come to Essex North Shore later in the day to take Shop/Tech classes. Brian Cranney applauded this initiative, noting that the early plans for Essex North Shore envisioned a campus "with the lights on 23 hours a day".
13. Brian Cranney, noting that the Red Sox World Series game was about to start, motioned to adjourn at approximately 8:10. Motion Passed.

