



Spring 2022 Program Advisory Committee Minutes

Program: Electricity

Date: 4/7/22

Members Present: Anthony Santo, Adam Munroe, Andrew Gallione, Anthony DeGuglielmo, Roy Simoes, Tom Paras, Jared Jacobson, David Delande, Rick Coughlin, Mason Coughlin, Ed Colbert, Robert Brown, Jared Norkiewicz, Richard Whitaker, Christos Xerras

Program Facilitator: *Christos Xerras*

Committee Chair: *Andrew Gallione*

Subject *Program Updates (enrollment, competency attainment, curriculum, equipment & projects/field work, senior portfolio showcase, etc)*

Discussion

All members introduced themselves and welcomed Mr. Robert Brown, who was unable to attend and Mr. Jared Norkiewicz, our program's new instructors this year.

Mr. Whitaker noted that the program enrollment is healthy with 25 freshmen, 26 sophomores, 26 juniors, and 16 seniors enrolled. Mr. Xerras explained the "After Dark" program and added that there were three students enrolled. He also mentioned that the Electricity After Dark program was being phased out, and the three students would finish the program as seniors next year, but no additional students would be enrolled. All of the instructors were happy to report that student competency has been markedly improved with the waning



of the pandemic. Mr. Munroe, Mr. Gallione, and Mr. Santo, all co-op employers, noted that the current group of co-op students were performing very well. Mr. Simoes asked how the program intends to fund new Code Books as the 2023 Code publishes late this year and will become law on January 1, 2023. Mr. Jacobson, a graduate of the Class of 2018 noted the cleanliness of the shop and the changes implemented to facilitate different projects being worked on simultaneously. The curriculum continues to emphasize core skills with a focus on developing what Mr. Whitaker describes as a “Competent Apprentice”. Mr. Norkiewicz described on and off campus projects including Smith Hall, the East Greenhouse, Alumni Gym, Transportation Trailer, Peabody Police, Topsfield Common, and Marblehead Job. Mr. Xerras added that senior portfolios were being readied and that members were needed for Portfolio Review and several members expressed an interest in participating.

Subject *Cooperative Education Update*

Discussion Mr. Norkiewicz noted that 11 out of 16 seniors and 12 out of 26 juniors are employed on co-op. A major obstacle continues to be the requirement of a 1 to 1 ratio of apprentice to licensee. Mr. Xerras added that Maine and New Hampshire have changed this to a 2 to 1 ratio, but that Massachusetts was not likely to do so.



Subject

Review CTE Program Assessment

Discussion The Committee reviewed the CTE Assessment completed during the Fall 2012 meeting and agreed with the results of that survey.

Subject *Employment Outlook/Industry Trends*

Discussion Mr. Delande indicated that the projections for employment in the electrical field all remain strong. He also noted that the extraordinary materials cost increases are having an impact on the entire industry. Mr. Gallione and Mr. Simoes both asked for an explanation of the budgeting process, noting the volatility of pricing. Mr. Colbert offered that in his 50 years of experience in the electrical field, he has seen economic ups and downs, and recommended that a diversity of instruction including new work, remodeling work, and service work in both residential and non-residential environments is important. Mr. Delande noted the continued industry trend of prefabricating electrical assemblies and suggested the possibility of a co-op position working in this area at his facility.

Subject *Recommendations for Program*

Discussion Mr. Paras questioned the student to teacher ratio and asked if an additional instructor would be helpful. Mr. Xerras noted that the DESE recommended ratio was 15:1. Mr. Norkiewicz and Mr. Whitaker explained that the disjointed nature of the schedule allows us to meet that ratio at some times but not at other times. Mr. Coughlin (parent) and Mr. Coughlin (student) suggested that more cordless power tools be available for student



use. Mr. Gallione emphasized (as he did at the Fall meeting) that this was an industry trend and proficiency with power tools is an important skill.

Subject *New Business*

Discussion **No new business.**

The meeting adjourned at (time): 8:30 PM