



Northland Community and Technical College
Architectural Technology and Design
Advisory Board Meeting – November 14th, 2023
Location – Dept 515, Northland Campus

Members in Attendance:

Dennis Bukowski – JLG

Josh Tanke – ICON

Trent Peabody – Lumber Mart

Rod Lahren – NCTC Arch. Tech. & Design

Erin Bulger – NCTC Arch. Tech. & Design

Members not in attendance:

Trevor Anderson – Foss Architects

Rachel Harris – EAPC

Tricia Behm-Johnson – Minnkota Power Cooperative

Minutes:

- Enrollment continues to be a top of mind issue this semester. Current enrollment is four 2nd year students and five full-time and two part-time 1st year students. We had one student enroll but had low attendance and was dropped early in the semester. One of our 2 part-time students is taking 2 classes as Postsecondary Enrollment Option (PSEO) and another is taking CAD classes for personal interest but intends to join the program in the fall.

Building Trades and Liberal Arts are the two areas Marketing is focusing on this year, which includes a video commercial with student and instructor interviews. This is being put together currently and will hopefully be seen at a movie theater near you! As well as various streaming services and local ads during high school tournaments, etc. Last year Nursing and Aviation were the focus and those programs did see enrollment increases, so we are hopeful for this marketing campaign.

Rod and Erin continue to visit high schools, attend career expos and look for avenues to build awareness of the program. Trent asked about packets/program information being sent to guidance counselors. We will follow up with our advisor and find out what communication is like currently and see if there's something more targeted we can do for our program.

- One opportunity we'd like to explore for current students would be a job shadowing/networking opportunity where industry professionals could office out of our department for a portion of the day. There would likely be some coordination with IT for this, but beyond having a guest speaker come in and talk about their company, students would be able to see a project someone is working on, see the different software programs, talk about typical workflow, etc. Anyone interested in this is encouraged to reach out and schedule something with Rod or Erin.

Enrollment info:

1st year – Fall 2023: started with 5, 1 forced withdrawal, 2 part-time students

2nd year – Spring 2023: 4 students, Fall 2023: 4 students



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- There was some discussion about the discontinuation of the Carpentry/Building Trades Project House with the Forx Home Builders Association. The house is now being built on Northland's campus grounds and will be purchased and moved in the spring/summer. Our students will continue to design the floor plan this spring and it's likely there will be opportunities to include other design projects as well, whether for other carpentry programs or individuals looking for home designs.
- There is a lot of potential opportunity to work with our local Perkins consortium. Over the summer, 42 secondary instructors enrolled in the CAD course offered through Northland's Workforce Development Solutions. These instructors now know enough AutoCAD to implement into curriculum in high school classes. This will hopefully fill a skills gap for these instructors and build awareness about our program. Along with this offering, we will be looking at potential ways to offer CAD to regional high schools, either as a PSEO option or something like College in the High School.
- Rod's position has not been filled. We are trying to broaden the reach of the job posting to industry websites (AIA.org for example) and encourage everyone to continue sharing this position and reaching out with any questions regarding the position.
<https://northlandcollege.peopleadmin.com/postings/1778>
- Erin will investigate using BIM 360 and Bluebeam Studio and look at incorporating that into curriculum so students have more experience with those aspects.

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