



Northland Community and Technical College  
Architectural Technology and Design  
Advisory Board Meeting – March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 4:30  
Location – EGF 515

**Members in Attendance:**

Dennis Bukowski – JLG with guest Derrick Deering with PCL

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

Josh Tanke – ICON

**Minutes:**

- The department is looking into getting updated technology like new VR goggles, 3D printers (potential to share with another dept to cut costs), get tablets to use with collaborative software (potential to share with Carpentry), and utilizing the laser cutter. There is a grant that may help obtain this technology and instructor training. Another item mentioned was a 3D scanner so students can create 3D models from the scans.
- Our plotters, despite being relatively new, continually need maintenance. As much of our plotting has gone digital, the printheads and ink cartridges expire, so we would like to go to one digital/powder based plotter. Any recommendations would be welcomed as we investigate this.
- Erin is working with regional Perkins grant managers to develop CAD curriculum for secondary teachers. This is an effort to keep up the momentum from the summer training those teachers gained with AutoCAD. There will be a small number of pilot schools. This will hopefully help eliminate barriers so more teachers are comfortable with AutoCAD curriculum. It was mentioned to look at additional software such as Inventor and Rhino. This partnership will hopefully continue, and we can look at providing additional training.
- Northland has started hosting summer camps geared toward elementary age students. At this point ARCH is not signed up as it is an all-day event and would need more than one trade program to fill the day. We will be working on activities for this to hopefully be an option for Summer 2025. Any suggestions are welcomed for these activities and if your company would like to be involved please let us know.
- Multiple schools with students ranging from 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade (EGF, GF, Crookston, TRF) have visited the department this semester and we've made another visit to Crookston high school.

**Enrollment info:**

1<sup>st</sup> year – Fall 2023: started with 5, 1 forced withdrawal, 2 part-time students, Spring 2024: no change

2<sup>nd</sup> year – Fall 2023: 4 students, Spring 2024: no change



There was discussion about visiting schools that have active building projects underway in their towns to help make connections to what our program involves and to also encourage our students to visit their high schools to promote the program.

- Part of the discussion was also around potentially adjusting the name of the program to reflect a broader application of the degree. While most graduates find work in the traditional architectural avenues, we have a number of students that get into mechanical/manufacturing drafting positions as well a few that go into civil work. There would be restrictions based on how classes are coded within the system but we'd like somehow market the broad opportunities students would have for work after completing the program.
- Rod's position remains open. The posting is now listed on the AIA.org site. We continue to encourage everyone to share this position and reaching out with any questions  
<https://northlandcollege.peopleadmin.com/postings/1778>
- A quote for BIM 360 came back at \$6k which maxes out the dept budget so Erin is investigating Bluebeam Studio for more of the collaboration aspects for our curriculum.

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