

## Welding Advisory Committee meeting minutes

9 December 2009

### Northland Community and Technical College

**Members present:** Ralph Williams, Bryan Steiger, Mike Lindholm, Jim Retka, Tom Heimann (current student), Ryan Elfering (current student), and Joel Ziegler (instructor)

1. Discussed program changes
  - a. Committee liked having more lab time
    - i. Resulting issues: using more material
      1. Committee members are willing to donate their drops and scrap material as it becomes available
2. Current enrollment:
  - a. Shared student information as to how they found out about the welding program
    - i. Most heard from friends and family; several found it on the website; a few heard about it from their H.S. instructor
3. Equipment
  - a. Welding department installed manifold system for OAW
  - b. Committee members Ralph, Bryan, and Mike each offered to donate a tig torch to get enough torches for all students (*may not be necessary due to attrition, 8 January 2010*)
4. Role of Advisory Committee
  - a. Handed out Program Advisory Committee Handbook for members information
  - b. Jim Retka explained the State guidelines to try to keep the Advisory Committee from becoming a “Good ole boy’s” club. Committee members didn’t think that was a bad thing, because they want a good relationship with the instructor and the program since they are going to be the ones most likely to hire the students.

5. Summer pipe welding course

- a. Joel doesn't feel qualified to teach a summer course on pipe welding with other, more qualified pipe welders (Larry Kizer) available. He also wouldn't have room in his workload to teach as a credit based course; it would need to go through Customized Training.
- b. Other issues would be cost of materials: pipe & electrodes.
- c. How would a person be allowed in the course: would need to pass a qualification test on plate in vertical up and overhead positions; student would need to make arrangements and pay for this qualification test ahead of time.
- d. Talk to Michels, Enbridge, & MN Limited for pipe welding requirements

6. Other business

- a. Recommended to get someone from Central Boiler added to the Committee; either Steve Muzzy or Jason Lee.
- b. Joel brought up an idea from Dan Klug about machining medals in the welding department using the HAAS mill. Mike was willing to donate the software needed to create the files and offered to come into the school and assist in transferring the files from a computer to the mill.

7. Next meeting: Spring of 2010