



## WELD Advisory Committee Minutes, Spring 2017

**Date:** Thursday, April 13, 2017

**Number of Attendees:** 17

**Called to order:** 5:46 pm

**Adjourned:** 6:40 pm

**Chairperson:** Roy Herrera

**Recorder:** Jennifer Woods

**Members present from industry:** **Paul Bauman**, Wagner Eqpt. Co.; **Allison Brink**, Aerotek; **Kris Gillham**, Local 412 P & P; **Roy Herrera**, Miller Electric; **Michael Thomas**, Rocky Mountain Testing

**Members present from CNM:** Amy Ballard, James Berry, John Bronisz, Lisa Chakos-Knapp, Ron Hackney, Kay Hamby, Chris Martinez, Trenten Moore, Mark Newlander, Jasen Thomas, Jennifer Woods, Kristine Sanchez (APS CTE)

**Next scheduled meeting:** Thursday, October 19, 5:30 pm at CNM TC 104

**I. Welcome/Introductions:** Roy opened the meeting and introductions were made all around.

**II. Minutes:** Minutes from the fall 2016 meeting approved as is.

**III. Reports:** Kay mentioned that she would like to change the course descriptions for the first term. This is an attempt to make the catalog descriptions less vague, and to be more concise for transfer students who want to enter our program. The list was also emailed to the members earlier in the week. Eventually we would like to update descriptions for second and third term classes too. The instructors were the ones who generated the new descriptions, based on feedback they have received from industry people, and Kris helped out the most. (Kris also donated a lot of materials to CNM.) It would be appreciated if the members could review the descriptions and give Kay and/or faculty any feedback.

Trenten mentioned the SkillsUSA competition. Welding students placed first in team fabrication and first and second in individuals. Kay expressed gratitude to Choice Steel for their generous donations of materials that the students could use to practice. Jasen was the one who contacted Choice. (Jasen is the new Instructional Tech for the welding program.)

Roy reported that he has been nominated as the director for SkillsUSA for the individual competitions. He will take this post over from John Stubbs.

Kris reported that Ron brought his class to the Union hall for a tour. He showed them videos about what plumbers, pipefitters and HVAC techs do. Local 412 hosted a portion of the SkillsUSA competition. He is trying to open his facility to more organizations, in order to get the Union's name out more. May 12 and 13 is the apprenticeship contest. Everyone is invited to come and watch. He has also received certification for the procedure for gluing plastics (solvent welding). Certifications are becoming more essential for getting a job in the industry.

Michael mentioned that the last AWS meeting will be hosted by Local 412, May 11, 6:00 pm.

Amy said that we are still doing well with our dual credit program for the High schools. Bernalillo HS and Moriarty HS have welding programs. Lisa said that we would like to expand into Valencia Co. and Rio Grande HS. The problem is finding time in the school schedules and finding instructors and facilities. She brought up the mobile welding lab. We'd like to see it at the Rio Rancho campus. We are waiting on UNM to sign an agreement of understanding so that we can park our lab on their land, which is used as a parking lot adjacent to the CNM campus.

Bobby Eichhorst is the new PED liaison in charge of CTE and dual credit programs, and we are excited to be working with her.

**IV. Old Business** Kay talked about the equipment replacement cycle. We received two Victor track torches, two H&M pipe track torches, two Powermax 85 plasma cutting machines, and one Hossfeld hydraulic bender. Other equipment will be purchased in the future when more funding becomes available.

**V. New Business** Ron talked about job placements, and the fact that there are far more jobs than workers. There are about 42 positions available and not enough students to fill them all. A company in Pueblo CO has been picking up our students. We are trying to place students in NM, and there are many opportunities opening up here.

CNM is trying to increase the number of classes we teach in order to meet the demands of the industry. The labs are full all day long. Normally we have at least 16 students in a class, and this is the best number for training competent welders quickly.

Jasen mentioned that Matheson Tri-Gas will be giving out \$75 gift cards to deserving students who excel in great attitude, helpfulness in the labs, good test scores and good attendance. Cards will be distributed to first termers at various times of the year. Matheson also hosts a student appreciation day on April 19.

Kris asked Lisa if it is possible to get a dual credit going with Questa schools, north of Taos. They will talk more soon. She thinks it is possible to bring those students here for tours of facilities.

**VI. Future trends and concerns:** Kris mentioned earlier in the meeting that there is a lot of work coming up, particularly in El Paso TX. Several CNM students have transferred to the Union.

Michael said that there is a shortage of welders, plumbers and electricians in this country.

Roy said he is always getting requests to do pipe seminars, because of the demand for certified pipe benders. He also noticed that a lot of welding instructors at the different trade schools in the region are leaving their positions in order to go back to work in the industry, because of the huge demand and great pay being offered now.

Paul remarked that he sees a three-year cycle; welding instructors go back to work in the industry, get tired of the hard work and constant travel, and then eventually go back to teaching.

CNM does have positions in the part-time pool. If any members know of a good candidate, please let Amy know.

Allison talked about her work at Aerotek. She recruits both short and long-term in manufacturing, and has had great success with finding jobs for our students. Her company in Albuquerque covers the whole state. She will also come to the college in order to talk to the classes.

Kay would like to see more industry at this advisory. Discussion followed about a good time to have this meeting.

**VII. Date and time of next meeting:** October 19, 2017, 5:30 pm at CNM Main Campus

**VIII. Advisory member feedback survey:** All present have already filled out the survey.

**IX. Adjournment:** 6:40 pm