

Welding Technology Program

Program Review

November 5th, 2010

We thank you for your dedication to your profession, students and the community as you've created, maintained and improved the outstanding quality of Welding Technology. Your presentation was relaxed, informative and well presented.

This response contains 5 sections: 1) Commendations, 2) Areas for further consideration, 3) Suggestions/observations, 4) Response to recommendations/areas of SAC needs and 5) Closing comments.

Commendations

- Partnerships with Vigor Industrial and the Swan Island business community
- Partnership with Newberg High School
- Continued efforts to respond to waiting lists and increase course offerings
- Instructional design that continues to stay current with industry requirements
- Outstanding reputation in the industry
- Tracking of former students successfully working in the community
- Open-entry, open-exit program
- Sustainable use of our resources
- Flexible and responsive to students' training needs

Areas for further consideration:

- Work towards increasing students completing degrees and certificates
- Continue to explore and develop business partnerships
- Newberg? Explore dual credit with NHS. Bridging high school students into full-time students at PCC for certificates
- Grow your own instructors

Suggestions/Observations

The following are intended as reminders of comments/suggestions made by the Review Team during your presentation.

1. Explore mentoring relationships with new part-time faculty and full-time faculty as a tool to ensure quality instruction.
2. Add appropriate “welding certification” to the mandatory instructor qualifications by June 2011.
3. Further explore DL welding lecture courses
4. Discuss needed expansion at Rock Creek with the Bond Committee
5. Continue to develop advisory committee improvement and pursue eastside industry representation on the committee
6. Have a librarian visit the classroom or take students to the library once a term to educate the students on how to use library resources
7. Look at alternative scheduling to allow more students to attend (funding dependent)
8. Give some attention to how the results of assessment of student learning outcomes are utilized for program improvement. The methods of assessment are described quite well, but it would be worthwhile to note how students did on these assessments. It is important be able to show that students who graduate meet the outcomes of their degrees and certificates, as well as documenting any changes that have been made in response to what the department learns from assessment. This will be an expectation of the annual assessment reports, and should be summarized for the next program review.

Administrative Response to SAC Recommendations

1) Pursue faculty and staff position growth

- Hire 3 more Full-Time Faculty at Rock Creek
- Hire 2 more Full-time faculty at Swan Island
- Hire 1 Full-time and 1 Part-time faculty at Newberg High School
- Hire an Administrative Assistant exclusively for Welding
- Reallocate more time for Technical Learning Specialists

Response: As much as we applaud your efforts to offer courses at three separate sites, we do not have the resources to be able to increase the full-time faculty at the level you are requesting. FT to PT ratios in Welding are already much higher than the college average. Every campus goes through an academic planning and New Initiative process. You can give input to your division deans your need to increase the full-time faculty. We understand that supporting CTE programs with some PT faculty is a challenge, but this is not unique to Welding. Please develop a plan for training part-time faculty on quality instructional practices and experience in the welding shop. Submit to your respective division deans. Consider if there are places within your curriculum where a redesign might allow for better use of PT faculty.

Submit a proposal to the respective deans for district wide funding for a designated welding administrative assistant

2) Support on-going Equipment needs:

- Purchase 18 inverter welding machines for SMAW booths
- Purchase 2 GTAW machines

- Purchase 8 water coolers for GTAW
- Purchase and install one gantry crane
- Purchase hydraulic brake

Response: Go to Division Deans and request equipment needs to be put on capital equipment funding lists. Also, ask for margin money to be allotted for equipment. Although Perkins has moved away from funding equipment, there may be surplus funds for capital expenses and equipment. Additionally, campuses may have available funding from margin enrollments. Work with your Divisions Deans and DOIs to pursue this if funding is available.

3) Facilities – Bond Initiative

- Make necessary electrical up-grades to accommodate newer equipment in the fabrication bay.
- Remove block wall between fabrication bays #1 and #2.
- Install 460 Volt power in 18 SMAW booths.
- Install 6 ventilation hoods and ducting for pipe welding stations.
- Install gantry crane in fabrication bay.
- Remove the wall between 132a and 132b.
- Build the two class rooms that were promised to welding in the previous voter approved bond measure.
- Add in-focus overhead projector system.
- Update the media room with current technology computers.

Response: Meet with Division Dean or bond committee to put these facility requests on the bond planning for Rock Creek. Please keep in mind that the Bond funds available for CTE renovation at Rock Creek are fixed, and must address a multiplicity of CTE needs, and must fall within the commitments made in the most recent 2008 Bond Measure. Welding faculty must work with their Division Deans to prioritize the most critical equipment and renovation needs, and to determine what might be eligible for Bond funding or other resources.

For recommendations that require additional funding, please identify those that are of greatest importance to the SAC.

- 1) Hiring Full-time faculty to support the growth that Welding has been experiencing over the last 5 years (which is really the last 15+ years)

Response: See response under Pursue faculty and position growth above

Closing remarks

We want to thank the Welding SAC for sharing the results of your program review with us. We look forward to supporting your ongoing work with us.

Administrative Response submitted by Julie Kopet on behalf of the Deans of Instruction.

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