

Apprenticeship and Trades
April, 2017

We thank you for your hard work, dedication, and commitment to your profession and students. The Program Review document and discussion was thorough and thoughtful. This response contains 4 sections: 1) Commendations, 2) Suggestions/observations, 3) Response to recommendations/areas of SAC needs and 4) Closing comments.

1. Commendations

- *The Program Review presentation and discussion provided significant insight into instruction in the Trades and anticipated challenges.
- *The Program Review discussion provided valuable insight into the importance of facilities improvements and ongoing professional development for instructors in the Trades.
- *Recommendations based on industry knowledge, advisory committee input, and concern for student success have been incorporated into the structure of the program and its curriculum.
- *The HVAC-VESOL model and other Career Pathways programs highlight the department's commitment to supporting diversity and equity in the trades.
- *The Apprenticeship and Trades Program's industry-based part-time faculty and External Advisory Committee provide useful feedback on the skills needed to enter the Trades. Advisory committee members attended the Program Review presentation and provided valuable insight and information.

2. Suggestions and Observations

The focus on prerequisite skills, on-the-job communication, and hands-on learning provide a strong foundation for students entering the Trades. It is evident that a lot of work has been done on the curriculum, facilities and equipment improvements, and student support. The Trades Program's commitment to transforming students' attitudes toward education, through providing a better, more supportive experience, is greatly appreciated.

The Program Review document and presentation, however, lacked sufficient attention to student learning assessment and curricular and program improvements based on the results of those assessments. Closer attention and more responsive answers to these guiding questions are necessary in order to make the case for the programs' ongoing responsiveness to student and industry needs, the need for facility and equipment improvements, and to guide faculty professional development efforts. Please designate a member of your SAC to participate in

Student Learning Assessment training and work with a coach from the LAC in order to improve the SAC's effort and results in student learning assessment.

Also, the Program Review references an agreement with OIT that gives the students 60-80 credits. Please connect with the Dean of Academic Affairs regarding updating and understanding transfer and articulation agreement opportunities for students.

3. Recommendations requiring funding

Refrigerants: training equipment, and faculty professional development that will be necessary to safely train and certify our students in the use of these future refrigerants. We recommend that the department begin now to project the cost for this refrigerant program and to move forward with it as soon as possible. *The DOIs support the proposal to research future training needs and estimate costs before any major commitment of resources is considered.*

Metal-Framed Structure: This facility would be minimal in construction and unheated—likely a simple metal-framed structure— but supplied with natural gas, compressed air, and 208 volt/480 Volt 3-phase power. The facility would be general use and available to the FMT, APR, and ELT programs, as well as to the new maritime welding technology program at Vigor Industrial. *This flexible, multi-purpose facility is intriguing, but a preliminary plan and cost estimate would need to be developed, along with identifying the necessary resources to implement such a plan—through Bond funds, new initiative funds, or workforce development funds—before this proposal can move forward.*

One-time budget augmentation of \$35,000 for the 2017-2018 Academic year to cover trainers, classroom podiums, and classroom lighting improvements. *The DOIs suggest you work with your campus DOI and Division Dean to identify one-time funds for these recommended facilities improvements in this fiscal year.*

4. Closing Comments

It is apparent that the Apprenticeship and Trades SAC is responsive to industry needs, committed to enhancing diversity and equity in the Trades, and planning for the future at Swan Island. The need for improved student learning assessment and faculty professional development is also apparent.

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