

# MACHINING-MANUFACTURING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

**DATE: November 8, 2021**

**TIME: 5:30-6:30**

**PLACE: LCC - Physical Science Building Room 102**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Richard Leu, chairperson, called to order the regular Fall 2021 meeting of the Machining-Manufacturing Advisory Committee at 5:42 pm on 11/08/21.

- II. **INTRODUCTIONS:**

Valerie Ciri - US Digital

Matt Petersen - Genentech

Richard Leu - Selway Machine Tools

Neil Donowitz - US Digital

Nathan Shephard - LCC, Instructor

Jennie Bergman - LCC, Workforce Education Manager

Veronica De Jesus - LCC, Employment Navigator

- III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 11, 2021 Meeting: [Machining-Manufacturing Advisory Board Minutes May 11, 2021](#)**

Motion to approve the May 11, 2021 Meeting Minutes - Neil Donowitz

2nd: Matt Petersen

Motion Approved

- IV. **CONSENT CALENDAR:**

- a. APPROVALS

- i. K12 CTE CONDITIONAL CERTIFICATION - none at this time

- ii. COURSES AND CIP CODES - none at this time

- V. **INDUSTRY UPDATES:**

**Neil** - US Digital is collaborating with LCC, Nathan, and employees are completing apprenticeship coursework at the US Digital facility. Nathan is overseeing the course work and students are utilizing video technology and uploading their work to YouTube. The program uses techniques that US Digital uses along with techniques that Nathan teaches. The apprenticeship has become a collaboration of industry and education working together to introduce employees into the machining program. US Digital has master craftspeople retiring and taking their "tribal knowledge" with them. We are looking for opportunities to pass on that knowledge. The collaboration with LCC is working well. Employers are encouraged to continue to participate in the program to hire within the company for the machining positions. Some of the employees have no experience and are now getting experience and confidence while learning a new trade. Nathan shared that it has worked very well. There is a media component at US Digital

and they can record the employee instruction and progress at a high level. Nathan watches what instruction they are getting from senior machinists on site and then can provide feedback through email. Neil commented that they need to do things differently to attract employees.

**Veronica** - Employers have reported that students are not prepared. They are also reporting that people are not applying to open positions. We need to find out what are the factors that play a part in students not being prepared and also why they are not applying. The challenge is getting students into employment.

**Richard** - They are interviewing people who need more skills. We are not set up internally to deal with applicants with no skills. They are looking at how they can get set up and train people to work on the machines. They are looking at finding people internally and training them.

**Valerie** - The company has changed to investing in current employees and training them through the new machining training program. This allows them to select employees who already fit the company structure. They then can provide the technical training needed.

**Matt** - Genentech has signed up to use ToolingU in partnership with LCC. It is an online curriculum platform for technical skills. Genentech recently restructured its maintenance and moved it into the manufacturing area doing everything in-house. Genentech is starting to utilize different training techniques to teach basic skills to current employees to learn the trade. Some employees are going to PCC and others will be taking the ToolingU courses. We are trying to find the right opportunities for everyone. Their goal is to teach basic concepts so that employees will get the experience in the field that they need. To keep employees on track with ToolingU, HR will be setting up expectations and they will be making it part of their performance to meet the expectations. Matt is excited to see it come together.

**Matt** introduced the committee to a group that he is a part of Northwest High Performance Enterprise Consortium (NWHPEC). He meets every month with the Maintenance/Manufacturing group. They provide training in a variety of areas and it is an opportunity to brainstorm with others in the field. The following is a description from their website: (<https://nwhpec.org>).

*NWHPEC represents a cross-section of Oregon and SW Washington businesses interested in the sharing and dissemination of information regarding continuous improvement.*

*NWHPEC's mission is to provide a forum for education and the exchange of information regarding the continuous improvement of practices and processes of enterprises in the Pacific Northwest region of the United States.*

**Matt** - Encouraged everyone to do more marketing. He shared that he goes to the schools in the area to talk with students. People do not understand the career opportunities within the maintenance/manufacturing industry. We need to get the word out and collaborate with education about career opportunities that do not require four years of education. There are also benefits within companies that employees can take advantage of including company-paid degree programs. Getting the word out and promoting vocational education opportunities is important.

**Richard** - Selway has the same hiring problems. Agree that the industry needs to be promoted more because every shop needs all levels of employees.

**Neil** - Shared information about the US Digital promotional video that they put together showcasing their partnership with industry and LCC. They are finding unique ways to involve their current employees with their manufacturing training program. This is the link to the video: [Training The Next Generation](#)

If you would like to make a video to promote manufacturing, Neil can help. They have a team that is dedicated to video promotions. They have several videos on their YouTube channel.

## VI. Education (LCC and K12) UPDATES:

- a. **K12 Updates** - None at this time
- b. **Curriculum Updates** - None at this time
- c. **Labor Market:** The following link is for the LCC data dashboard. The labor market information is included in this data: [LCC Data Dashboard](#). Select Precision Production on the left and then click on the Labor Market Tab at the top of the screen to review the current labor information.
- d. **Cooperative Education** - Cooperative Education is now part of the curriculum. Students in their 2nd year of the program will be eligible to sign up for the credits. The Machine Trades students will earn 3 credits for training in the field or 3 credits for taking the welding class for machinist/manufacturing students. We will be pushing for a cooperative education experience for all the students. Opportunities are open to the region, not just Cowlitz County.
- e. **Facilities, Equipment, Technology** - Nathan reported that he has put in a request for a new CNC Lathe for the machine shop to reflect current industry standards. After getting feedback from industry supervisors about multi-access machines, the program shifted to include more CAD/CAM built into it. Richard would like to talk about the need to get more involved with Fusion 360 - students can get a free subscription. It is very accessible.
- f. **Student Success/Performance**  
Nathan reported that all students that are attending are doing well. Students are motivated.  
Neil stated that the employers who are in training at US Digital are getting great feedback from Nathan.

**VII. LCC Employment Navigator - Veronica De Jesus**

This is a new position created to support employers and students navigating into employment. Our goal is to make sure that students are prepared and have the skills that employers need. We are seeking out information on what we can do to get students ready for the level that employers need them to be. We help with resumes, cover letters, and interviews to help them get a job. We also are the bridge to connect students and employers to opportunities. We also work with students who are motivated but have barriers and we are looking to employers to see if they can help and what support they can offer future employees.

**VIII. OLD BUSINESS:** The new high school CTE course, Industrial Trades Foundations, was approved at the last spring meeting. This course is a high school CTE class that will be offered on the LCC campus for dual credits and has a 10-student minimum requirement. The class is ready to go and will start being offered on the LCC campus next fall, 2022-23 school year.

Course Catalog Description:

Industrial Trades Foundations

Grades: 11-12

Length: Full Year Class

Class Time: Monday-Friday, 7:15 a.m. – 8:50 a.m.

Credits: 3.0 (1.0 earned per completed Trimester)

Graduation Requirement: CTE, Elective

Prerequisite: Previous welding experience preferred but not required

Location: Lower Columbia College campus **MUST PROVIDE OWN TRANSPORTATION**

Students in this class will develop knowledge and skill sets related to the industrial trades. This course offers training in machining, manufacturing, and welding, including the safe operation of milling machines. Students will have the opportunity to explore topics like the manufacturing processes, such as heat treating and finish coating, and expand their knowledge of welding and cutting processes. Instruction is delivered through project-based exercises that include blueprint reading and completing projects based on technical diagrams. To receive CTE Dual Credit (college credit) students must complete all 3 Trimesters with a “B” or better. Students are eligible to earn up to eight college credits that may directly apply to an Advanced Manufacturing, Machine Trades, or Welding Certificate or Associate degree through Lower Columbia College or possible transfer to another college, university, or training program.

**IX. NEW BUSINESS:** Matt recommended adding more maintenance industry focus to this manufacturing program. Matt would like to see something more inclusive with a focus on maintenance. We can focus on this in the spring and possibly put a committee together to focus on maintenance topics. Matt shared that the industry is looking for maintenance.

LCC does some maintenance within the manufacturing program very open to

- X. UPCOMING PROGRAM OR COMMUNITY EVENTS:** None at this time. Nathan has invited schools to come tour LCC but we have not heard back. This is a goal as things start to open back up.

Veronica is working on a career fair at LCC. She will let employers know more information. It was suggested to have a career demonstration career fair. Not just a table with information but demonstrations. Hands-on activities draw students in.

- XI. NEXT MEETING (DATE/TIME/PLACE):** Location Rightline - May 5:30 pm

- XII. ADJOURNMENT:** 6:38 pm

**XIII. RESOURCES**

- a. [ADVISORY COMMITTEE HANDBOOK](#)
- b. [LCC: Professional-Technical Advisory Committees Meeting Minutes](#)
- c. [The Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act, Public Law 105-332](#)
- d. [College Advisory Committee Procedures](#)

PREPARED BY: Jennie Bergman

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