



LOWER COLUMBIA COLLEGE 1600 Maple Street, Longview, WA 98632

Diesel Technology ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Friday, May 10th, 2019 Noon LCC Don Talley Building, Room 201

I. Meeting called to order at 12:05 p.m.

II. ATTENDEES

James Bobst, Pacific Fibre Products
Bill Castle, Castle Automotive Machine
Johnny Krause, DSU/Peterbilt
Terry Craig, ERS West
Bryce Lemmons, Signature Transport/Interstate Wood Products
Rick Sanders, driver trainer
Eric Thwaites, Tribeca Transport
Kerry Tuck, DSU/Peterbilt
Jim Dillinger, LCC
Ken Ecklund, LCC
Steve Pattison, LCC
Barry Walther, LCC

III. AGENDA ITEMS

a) Program Updates

a. Enrollment

Ken Ecklund and Jim Dillinger discussed enrollment is down a bit in Diesel/Heavy Equipment Technology (DHET), not hit quite as hard as some other programs on campus that are experiencing very low enrollment. Discussion about improved economy and people going to work instead of continuing in education. Commercial Driver's License (CDL) training however is experiencing rapid growth. First class of eight students, maximum allowed due to instructor to student ratio, starts May 20th. A second driver trainer will join LCC to meet requirements of number of students in the truck during driving portion of training – 4 to 1.

b. CDL Simulator

LCC Foundation encouraged Jim Dillinger and Lynell Amundson to apply for Faculty Excellence/Foundation Grant to increase the funds in the CDL Simulator Campaign Fund. Current amount is \$13,500. Cost of simulators range from



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\$90,000 to \$140,000. LCC has been reviewing a \$120,000 VIRAGE model. <https://viragesimulation.com/> Foundation grant committee meets May 22nd to review applications. Funds released July 1, 2019, for approved projects.

Board discussion about advantages of simulator, saves wear and tear on trucks, availability for use by employer partners for their current workforce. Barry Walther recently visited Centralia College and tried out their new simulator; Centralia requires students to test on simulator before they are allowed to get into truck.

Students can count 8 hours of simulated training as part of the required 120 hours for CDL. Simulator gives students exposure to situations in a simulated environment that they wouldn't necessarily get during drive time training.

c. Certificate/Degree outcomes

Ken shared information regarding changes to objectives and outcomes to certificates and degrees, provided program planners to board members. This exercise conducted by Professional/Technical Programs to standardize outcomes across programs.

Ken and Jim developed an updated list of tools that will be required for first year students with additional tools required for second year students. Previously provided a list of recommended tools. Now are requiring specific set of tools to better prepare students to go to work.

b) Guided Pathways

LCC faculty led discussion about Guided Pathways Project at LCC and suggestion that vocational students should be required to take College Success Course. Faculty shared information about foundation classes (Manufacturing 100 Foundational Skills for the Trades, Manufacturing 105 Industrial Safety) that were developed for vocational programs to expose students with little to no experience to a factory/shop environment – shop safety, work ethic, dressed appropriate for shop environment, basic use of tools, names of tools, career options in vocational fields. Students were previously required to take the College Success Course; students didn't see the relevance to their program of study, became frustrated spending a full quarter in this class before they got into vocational studies. Most students in vocational tracks are at LCC because they want to go to work, these foundational classes prepare them to be successful in the next elements of their education.

Students do visit areas of campus that provide services as part of MFG 100 class so they know what is available to them.

Board members said these foundation classes are essential to student success and necessary especially if students will be participating in internship at employer site.



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James Bobst moved to keep the foundation classes as part of vocational program; seconded by Eric Thwaite. Approved by board.

c) Job market

a. Internship, Apprenticeship, Job Placement

LCC faculty led a discussion about opportunities for students to be at employer sites while they are still in school; would employers consider providing lab element of coursework? Students would get theory at LCC, work with faculty to provide lab experience at employer site that meets objectives/outcome of course. This model give employers introduction to student and gives student experience at the work site. Castle Machine is currently employing two students who are still in the Diesel Program. Tribeca Transport has hired 5 or 6 students from LCC's Diesel/CDL program. Signature Transport worked with a student waiting to get into LCC's program; spent three weeks with Signature before starting in LCC's program, will most likely be hired on full time as soon as he is completed.

Board members in favor of this model. Asked for process document to see what LCC is currently doing with Cooperative Education, offered to help develop program.

IV. UPCOMING PROGRAM OR COMMUNITY EVENTS

- a. May 17th Try A Trade
- b. Lower Columbia Transportation Association 4th Annual Dino Doozer Golf Tournament June 14th, Lewis River Golf Course; monies go to the Southwest Washington non-profit helping families and children battling childhood cancer; still need sponsors and raffle donations. Contact Dennis Werbowski (503) 201-9649, dwerbowski@aol.com or Sherry Martin (360) 200-3027 or info@lowercolumbiatransportation.org.
- c. NEXT MEETING (DATE/TIME/PLACE): Friday, Oct. 11th, Noon

V. Meeting adjourned 1:10 p.m.