

To: Chemical Technology Advisory Committee Archives
From: Meredith Vanderhill
Subject: Minutes of December 6, 2019

Members Present: Steve Bertman, Jason Bishop, Luke Chadwick, Joseph Gentile, Edward Hessler, Charissa Oliphant, Christine Pruis, Cynthia Schauer, Lori Todd

Recorder: Meredith Vanderhill

1. Greetings and Introductions
 - a. Call to order – 9:05am
 - b. Official member forms
 - i. Bishop gave an overview of Perkins, Perkins grant money, Perkins survey and official procedures. Members took time to fill out new/renewal forms.
 - ii. Bishop reviewed the Chemical Technology program and the differences from KVCC's other chemistry degrees.
 1. Chemical technology is a 2 year associates designed to go straight to employments instead of a transfer to a 4 year university.
 2. Primary difference is course CHEM 250.
2. Updates on New Equipment for Chemical Technology Program
 - a. Portable X-Ray Refractometer
 - i. Mobile XRF used for plastics and metal analysis.
 - ii. Split between EDMT, GEO and CHEM departments.
 - b. Hydrogen Generator for Gas Chromatograph
 - i. Cost efficient. No longer needing to purchase helium.
 - c. New/Replacement UV/Vis system
 - d. New HPLC system
 - i. Old system - transition from reverse phase to normal phase so students have exposure to both.
 - ii. Under service contract and using chromeleon for software. Using to run both GC and HPLC.
 - e. Suggestions
 - i. Bishop reported that the current GC is nearing the end of its life and asked if KVCC should request another GC or upgrade to a GC/MS.
 1. Consensus to get another GC (something that the students will use in the work world.
 2. Chadwick also suggested looking into databases.
 - ii. Atomic Emissions Spectrometer
 1. Atomic analysis for water supply.

- iii. Chadwick suggested more interaction between the Chemical Technology department and Brewing department.
3. Trades Expo / Department Advertising
- a. Trades Expo had an attendance of approximately 800 people and at least 15 people came through the Chemical Technology lab.
 - i. Bishop encouraged industry partners to be a part of next year's expo.
 - b. Advertising getting better but still needs some work.
 - i. Chemical Technology used to be listed under welding in the program of study. It is now advertised under the sciences. Goal to get KVCC as the top hit for a google search.
 - ii. Oliphant mentioned that there is now a brochure with information about the program. (i.e: what types of jobs are available in the field and average pay.) Waiting for more to be printed.
 - iii. Chadwick suggested a name change for the program – Chemical Technician would be more meaningful and employers/students understand what it means.
4. Hiring/Internships
- a. Program timeline/Hiring needs for local companies/Does it match hiring timelines
 - i. Program is currently set up so graduates receive degree at the end of spring.
 - ii. Hiring needs are unpredictable year round.
 - iii. Will hire 2 year graduates, do not need 4 year.
 - iv. Discussion surrounding KVCC and Kalamazoo county job board.
 - b. Internships
 - i. Mention from industry partners that internships tend to be difficult and that employers would need to see at least 2 semesters of organic chemistry before taking on an intern. Partners also like to bring in computer science interns to help with software.
 - c. Kudos to Lori Todd for coming to Kim Lewis's classrooms to help students prepare for employment and conducting mock interviews.
5. Next Meeting
- a. Spring Semester
 - i. Possibility to bring committees together for Dinner.
 - ii. Email Jason bishop with suggested times and locations.
 - b. Assignment request before next meeting
 - i. Program Review/Comparisons
 - 1. Do we have the right classes selected?
 - 2. Bishop to send out a list of classes and our course catalog for partners to review.
 - 3. Look for other programs and do comparisons to see if we line up or have room for improve.
 - ii. Internet Search

1. Search the internet for Chemical Technology programs designed to go right into industry.
2. Compare what KVCC has vs what they have. Is there anything KVCC should market based on your comparison.

Meeting adjourned: 10:11am