

**Kalamazoo Valley Community College  
Machine Tool Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes – December 19, 2017**

**Present:** Patrick Barnes, Dave Brock, LaJoyce Brooks, Tom Buszek, Deb Coates, Rick Garthe, Denny Grice, Bill Kring, Diane Long, Greg Mills, Mike Lueer, Dan Retherford, Dale Steinfeld, Jim Williams

**Absent:** Dean Birkmeier, Larry Byers, Kim Davies, Gabe Kooyers, Michael Mehler, Samuel Mony, Jon Saver, Scott Smelker, Michael Stevens, Vas Subramanian, Bill Wilson

1. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order by Bill Kring, at 12:06 a.m.

Welcome and introductions.

2. Review of Minutes from November 4, 2016 meeting. Motion to approve minutes by Steinfeld. Seconded by Long. Motion approved.

3. Program update

Kring reported that most MACH classes are full or over-full with waitlist. Enrollment down for college as a whole.

Brooks reported that apprenticeships are up to approximately 400 apprentices with about 200 scheduled for Winter semester. The College now using state of Michigan job website, Pure Michigan Talent Connect ([mitalent.org](http://mitalent.org)) for jobs. She suggested employers contact ASAP to assure apprentices get seats in classes.

Kring and Brock stated that combining the programs (MACH & DRFT) into EDMT has been beneficial to both students and faculty. All working together for the common good. Brock also reported that in the capstone course (EDMT 270) students choose the project and work together to deliver the project. It gives students real world experience while still at KVCC.

Williams reported on Plastics Tooling Construction (EDMT 205). Excited to run the class a third time. Students also choose project. Williams looks at each student's individual talents and places them into groups (design and tooling) accordingly. Great real world experience taking idea from design to manufacture as a team. Kring expressed appreciation for EIMO's continued involvement.

4. Capital equipment

Kring reported on budget. Increased a little this year; asked for more next year. The increase in equipment has meant an increase in maintenance. He shared difficulty with getting Tesa Height Gage repaired (had to be sent to Minnesota for repair). Kring also expressed gratitude for Darrel Burchett for donating (and delivering!) cutters!

Kring stated that approval was received for new basic certification for Metrology from Starrett. Buszek reported that the funds should be available to purchase in January. Kring would like to get approval for advanced certification as well.

Garthe reported on class project for Inventor (EDMT 165). His students team up with Kim Lewis (Metallurgy/Mechanical Testing EDMT 260) to design and build pinewood derby cars. Gives his students great experience working with "customers" (Lewis' class). After the cars have been made the students in both classes compete in derby races.

Kring asked for recommendations for equipment direction and thoughts on robotics. Discussion on robots followed. All agreed robots are the way to go; robots provide zero down time in shops. FANUC robots are the best of the best.

5. Old Business

Overcrowding still a problem in some classes because of limited space. Long reported no issues for students in 102. She asked whether there was a substitute for EDMT since it's not being offered in the evening. Garthe reported that there will be an evening class this summer and one evening section in Fall 2018.

Brooks suggested apprentices should preregister with her so they can get the classes they need. More apprentices coming, Pfizer may be returning, and with Early Middle/College competition for seats will be even greater.

Kring reported on HTECH Open House held in the spring was a success. Great turn out. Hope to do it again.

6. New business

Busek announced his retirement from KVCC in 3 days. He thanked the Faculty (Full and adjunct) for all their dedication to program and College. Without their talent and dedication the college wouldn't be as successful as it is. He also commended the committee members for their active participation and partnership with the College. He said his time at KVCC has been very rewarding due in part to the dedication and commitment of those in the room as well as their counterparts in other programs.

Brooks still registering for Winter semester. Letter of authorization need to be in soon. Book vouchers are available in Book Store now. She asked that in the future make sure forms are filled-in completely for each student so that there are no surprises.

Meeting adjourned 1:10 pm.