

Minutes
EDMT Advisory Board Committee
March 22, 2024
Texas Township Campus, Room 5740

- I. Meeting called to order at 12:04 p.m.
- II. Members present: Dave Brock, Peter Grohs, James Sprau, Brian Stewart, Matt Rudolph, Greg Mills, Chad Meade, James Williams, Jennifer Swan, Mark Dunneback, Bill Kring, Dan Branch, LaJoyce Brooks, Allison Boerema
- III. Call to approve minutes from last meeting
 - a. Forgot to print last advisory board meeting's minutes – Bill Kring to distribute to members via email for approval
- IV. Program Updates
 - a. Many new changes to the EDMT courses have been approved: changing course names, adding new courses, combining courses
 - i. CAD degree underwent a name change to Engineering Design Tech; still offering a CAD Cert
 - ii. Working through challenges of increased transferability to Western Michigan University
- V. Perkins Core Performance Indicator
 - a. Enrollment in all EDMT pathways is down since 2018/2019 by about a third
 - i. Apprenticeships note that headcounts are down for EDMT while there is growth in ELT currently. Slight decline in corporations that are bringing in apprentices.
 - ii. Interest is low for new learners to pursue education opportunities in lieu of career pathways
- VI. Comprehensive Needs Assessment Input
 - a. Satisfaction with student placements
 - i. Nissha Eimo, currently with 3-4 apprentices – great success with everyone hired from Kalamazoo Valley
 - ii. WSC-MI have seen a few apprentices recently that lost interest and did not work out – noted better success in more tenured candidates
 - b. Satisfaction with skill level of graduates
 - i. Committee members are overall satisfied with skill level of graduates
 - ii. Encourages continuing to convey the importance of transferrable skills and cross-training to learners
 - c. Are there gaps in skills that our students present?
 - i. Committee members suggest adding more die making skills to apprenticeships and curriculum – not many stampers left in the market
 - 1. Garnering participation for a stamping class may be a hurdle
 - ii. Suggestions included curriculum changes to include specific die making operation in instructional material

1. Discussion around leaning into external partners for machinery access, as space to add a press in the current lab is limited
 - d. Are there gaps in the program?
 - i. Recent uptick in learner's interest level for the architectural-side. Consider looking to recruit working architects in the area to fill out PT instructing roles
 - e. Suggestions for improving student and graduate's success
 - i. Committee members suggest encouraging students to be hands-on as well as to develop an interest in the supervisory side from a manufacturing viewpoint
- VII. Old business
- a. Tuition and fee structure at Kalamazoo Valley changed from charging per credit hour to per contact hour
 - i. Lab-intensive classes have been affected more heavily
 - ii. Increased cost may be a contributing negative factor to enrollment
 - b. Pursuing adding two metrology classes to match up with GD&T course
 - i. A basic and an advanced class have both been submitted for approval
- VIII. New Business and/or projects
- a. Capital equipment for this year and next year
 - i. Metal 3D Printer is the big-ticket item that the department is working to secure capital for the future
 - ii. New equipment includes hardness tester and other small items in the metallurgy lab, as well as updated camera capability
 1. Currently upgrading 5+ year old equipment with little pieces at a time
 2. Updating fluid power
 - iii. Replacing the surface grinder with a new super precision grinder
 - iv. Bought 2 pieces of Zolar equipment: a shrink fit machine and a measurement machine
 1. Included 15 copies of offline software for free
 - b. PT Instructor Jim Williams retiring in 2 weeks – currently seeking replacement instructor for his courses
 - c. 50th anniversary of apprenticeships
- IX. Updates from around the college
- a. The college was recently awarded a \$40 million-dollar capital outlay grant for renovation of the Technical Trades wing by the state of Michigan
 - i. The college will have to raise half of the money, roughly \$20 million dollars, to secure funding
 - ii. Individuals are working to secure funding and preliminary building design, as well as working with the state
 - iii. Please direct any funding sources or questions toward Bill Kring at 269-488-4276 or wkring@kvcc.edu
- X. Next meeting date, time, and location: TBD
- XI. Adjournment: Meeting ended at 1:35 p.m.