

CERRITOS COLLEGE WELDING TECHNOLOGY

Spring 2024 - ADVISORY MEETING MINUTES – March 28, 2024

The Spring 2024 Cerritos College Welding Department Industry Advisory Committee Meeting was held in person in the Metals classroom ME-2. This meeting took place immediately following the Advisory Committee Recognition Breakfast. The meeting began with greetings from Welding Department Chair, Albert Allen. Albert presented the Committee with agenda updates, and the meeting was then turned over to discussion from the members. Each member provided an introduction with their name and industry or organization they represent. Each member then proceeded to inform the Committee of news and prospective job opportunities involving their organization or industry they represent. The result was an informative and productive discussion for each topic brought to the table.

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 A.M.

Albert Allen updated the Committee on the following:

- Part-Time Instructor recruitment for Cerritos College is currently open through April 30. Currently, it is difficult to find individuals with industry experience and a minimum of an Associate Degree. Mr. Allen is asking for help to spread the word about the job opportunity to those who may be qualified and interested.
- Update on the Aerospace Weld Inspection course and laboratory set up. The weld inspection course is underway and is on track to possibly add to the courses offered in the Summer 2025 semester. This course will be taught by David Perkins and Melissa Figueroa. The laboratory is receiving the fluorescent penetrant inspection station by the end of May 2024.
- Update on pipe layout and pipe fitting courses. The courses are in the process of development. New tooling and equipment have been purchased. The new tooling will allow for hydrostatic testing. The course will be taught by Albert Allen and possibly added to the 2025-26 school year.
- Job opportunities for Cerritos College students. Cerritos college has provided students with job opportunities with employers who contact the Welding Department. The College has a strong reputation for producing educated, trained, and well-rounded welders. The job opportunities are with local companies such as SpaceX, as well as Local Unions. Melissa Figueroa coordinated a presentation with a SpaceX employee to present information and job opportunities to students seeking employment in the aerospace industry. SpaceX recruited students from the College.
- Union relations and opportunities. Albert Allen has coordinated Local Union members to present information to students seeking employment. Union members have recruited welders from the College.
- Update on new equipment implemented in the laboratory. The fabrication of a pipe skid was completed by Mr. Allen's students. This gives students the opportunity to experience pipeline conditions.

Committee Member Discussion Topics:

- The Committee advised the use of the large fabrication tables that are inside the shop. Students need experience with tooling that is used with the fabrication tables, such as hold downs, to help prepare for welding conditions in a fabrication shop.

- The Committee suggests implementing tooling such as benders, mills, drill press and lathes. These are machines that are used in most fabrication shops and will help students better understand their function.
- The Committee discussed the possibility of creating new curriculum to be used in an advanced fabrication class. The discussion included using more blueprints to assist in layout and fabrication of projects. The Committee suggested using mock travelers and job packets in the aerospace and structural welding classes.
- The Committee suggests investing in new equipment for the Welding Department such as battery powered portable band saws, die grinders and angle grinders.
- The Committee recommends using battery powered hand tools and pneumatic tools.
- The Committee recommends the brands National and Baileigh for a small shear. The small shear is to be used as a back up to the current sheet metal shear in the shop.
- The Committee suggests teaching students rolling offset and utilizing lasers for field measurement and layout.
- The Committee brought forward prospective job openings for Local Union 250. They are looking for qualified welders for their apprenticeship program. Many former Cerritos College students are currently employed by Local Union 250, but they are looking for more welders. The apprenticeship is approximately 5 years, after which the welder will become journeyman.
- The Committee presented the job opportunities for Local Union 433. Students should understand the importance of blueprint reading, strong math skills, and basic safety training. Students should be well rounded in more than one welding process.
- The Committee presented job opportunities for Local Union 18 Elevators Union. On April 1st, 1,000 job applicants will be accepted. Current journeyman level pay is \$75.42 / hr.
- The Committee suggests teaching students crack repair using nickel (NI) rods. The Committee also suggests teaching students aluminum cast welding.
- The Committee suggests teaching students DC aluminum welding in the aerospace classes. The Committee acknowledges cost of material and gas, but still suggests the training and certification for students.
- The Committee suggests D1.8 (Seismic Retrofitting) weld tests. This certification is currently used by Local Union 433, and few welders have the certification. This would help students get their foot in the door faster.
- The Committee suggests adding new program certificates to help students qualify for local industry jobs. Program certificate ideas include: aerospace, pipe fitting, and combination welder certificates.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 A.M.