

**Northland Pioneer College Industrial Operations and Maintenance
Department**

Advisory Committee Meeting

March 6, 2014

NPC Skill Center Testing Room, Holbrook, Arizona

Working Lunch and Mechatronics Lab Tour

Dylan Bearce, TEP Training Supervisor; Fred Calderon, NPC IMO Faculty; Peggy Belknap, NPC CTE Dean; Kim Finch, SRP Coronado and NPC Adjunct; Kenny Keith, NPC IMO Coordinator; John (Charlie) Perkins, NPC Mechatronics instructor; Ann Hilliard, NPC/CTE; Bill Fee, NPC TAACCCT Grant Coordinator; Tamara Martin, Apache County NPC Coordinator; Lisa Aragon, NAVIT; Von Stradling, SRP; Wade Stoddard, SRP Training Specialist; Christopher Susag, APS Cholla & NCCER; Jason Martineau, APS and NPC Adjunct; Bob Martineau, APS Cholla/NPC Adjunct; Ernie Wakefield SRP/NPC Adjunct; Ted McNab, NPC Adjunct; Dave Thranum, Forest Energy; Dave Thranum, Jr., Forest Energy and NPC IMO student; Jeff LeFevre, TEP Training Supervisor ; Christine Jensen, Mira Costa College; Albert Garcia, TEP Training Specialist; Ernest Wakefield, NPC Adjunct; Jeremy Raisor and John Spadaccini, NPC Career Services.

Welcome and Introductions – Kenny Keith

Von Stradling, Advisory Committee Chair – hard to believe it's been almost a year since we've had an advisory meeting. We need to meet regularly, discuss the commonalities among our various industry perspectives, meet outside this meeting so we can provide input to NPC. We can follow the model of San Juan College, which has partnered with industry for their industrial programs and has a nationally recognized power plant training program.

Minutes from last meeting -- If there are changes to minutes – Kenny will send out – please email Kenny and we will approve them electronically.

First, we would like to recognize Bob Martineau who has taught with NPC for many years – has retired. Thanks to Bob for his years of instruction and work with NPC.

Get Into Energy Grant – TAACCCT Energy Industry Fundamentals Certificate – the 104 course outcomes match our NPC 210 class pretty well. Students will get various credentials as they move through the program, from basic workforce skills to power industry specific ones. APS is using that cert as part of their job qualifications for the nuclear power plant. Bill and Kenny have a visit scheduled to Estrella Mountain Community College to compare the two courses. We want to be sure that a student that starts at one of the 5 community colleges is able to transfer to partner colleges without losing credit.

IMO Cholla Power Open House Date – NAVIT starts registering for Fall 2014 on April 1. So it would be good to have an open house for parents and students before that.

NCCER Test Site:

For new members, the NCCER (National Center for Construction Education and Training) curriculum was developed by industry for industry. If we have a certified testing site, industry can send potential or new employees over for crafts training and assessment – can test out if you have gone through another craft apprenticeship program. This would benefit all of our companies; if you hire a mechanic from another region, this testing will identify areas in which the new employee needs additional training; will save us a lot of time. What is the time frame for becoming certified as a Testing Site? Peggy -- We have this room as testing room – will be installing computers. Christopher Susag – I will need to inspect the room and will need to train the proctor. We have been working on this goal for many years. Dylan – it would be great if all NPC grads could take that test and have their NCCER scores upon graduation. Peggy – our Maintenance students receive their NCCER Plant Maintenance certification when they successfully complete the maintenance sequence. Kim Finch – at SRP – students have to have received at least 80% on each section to be eligible for hire.

Nuclear industry requires a minimum score in MASS/POSS tests. Very expensive to become a test site for these aptitude tests.

New contact: Christopher Susag. Job shadowing at Cholla Power Plant – four-hour blocks or 8-hour blocks available. New contact for students is Chris Susag. NPC students can email Chris and schedule to follow an employee as they walk systems – They can go with maintenance or operations people.

Electronics storage at NPC Show Low – will be bringing some equipment up for possible use in program.

Capital Equipment – we have some approved capital for this year, around \$100,000 – so I will be contacting you to ask about equipment needed for improvements to IMO program. I'm passing around a brochure for an Amatrol Steam Learning System training prop which could be incorporated into both operations and maintenance courses. Please let me know what you think about this as a possible expansion to our program.

Kenny -- In the past our power industry partners requested the NCCER Industrial Mechanic curriculum. As result of this grant, I've been comparing it to the Power Generation curriculum. We can add 9 modules to the existing Industrial Mechanic curriculum and add a new certification to the existing NCCER cert which students receive through the Maintenance program.

Chris – our apprenticeship program is going to use Power Generation in the future; Von – we use that curriculum also, switched over when this curriculum came out. Kenny -- Do we want to revamp our courses to reflect Power Generation? Dylan – recommend that NPC go that direction. Increases employability for all graduates.

Kenny – I could initially offer a 199 course (temporary course), to include modules that aren't in the Industrial Mechanic curriculum. Would probably be a six credit course. Chris – we would need to make sure the NPC instructor also has the Power Generation certification so students' NCCER qualifications are accepted. Peggy – be aware that a 199 course may be taught only three times. After that the course has to go through our Instructional Council process, which is a key element of our accreditation.

Promote the Maintenance courses – review NCCER Power Generation Mechanical Series.

Kenny – I need Program Review help – we have to do a major program review for the IMO program this year. I have supplied you with an outline which includes questions about the desired outcomes of our program and your recommendations for future directions for the program. Please email me with your comments and recommendations.

Brochures – showed two brochures, one for traditional students, one geared more toward to the high schools that partner with NPC and send their students to the IMO program for half a day (NAVIT).

Enrollment – Last semester 130. This semester including Mechatronics we have 150.

Jeremy – Career Services Adviser. Am a major point of contact for all industry partners when you are hiring. We have upcoming job fairs; can have you come speak with a class about your positions. Online job postings, full-blown career fairs, assist you in setting up internships. Of course we direct students to your websites for application process. Would like to introduce John Spedaccini – full time career coach with the TAACCCT project.

Career Fairs coming up -- Thursday April 24 Winslow, Friday April 25 Show Low. This is a community career fair; we have partnered with Workforce and Veterans Affairs to bring in job seekers.

Bill Fee – about a year ago we told this group “We’ll be in the Skills Center soon.” Finally we’re here. The TAACCCT Get Into Industry grant provided the Mechatronics equipment, about \$500,000. We have five grant-funded positions; three have been hired and we are interviewing for the other two. We are working on the testing room. Initial grant audit week of April 21. It’s moving slowly but in the right direction.

What is the status of the grant? We are in the middle of the second year. This building was not part of the grant. The college has saved its capital funds and built the building with no debt. The grant and mechatronics came along just at the right time when we had CTE space. A big part of the grant is national certifications, testing, and developing curriculum. Right now the energy producers are trying to

identify every position with common job titles and job descriptions. Dylan – APS has 2800 position titles.

Peggy – Royce Kincaid, in Business and Industry Training through NPC can arrange targeted non-credit training, such as emergency response, fire protection, etc.

Round table – Who is hiring? Chris – we are behind. SRP – the way into Cholla Generating Station is through the operations program. We have had 12 people with 425 years of experience retire in the last couple of months. TEP -- 210 employees, 45% retirement eligible. When Catalyst Paper shut down, the power plants picked up lots of their talented employees. Also we have to go national to get experienced journeymen in maintenance. Program changes for IMO – students are being assessed more frequently; SRP CGS also asked NPC to add a fifth semester of site specific training. We get the students out in the plant so they can see all the systems they have been studying in the previous four semesters.

Dylan – TEP is part of the TAACCCT grant – I deal mainly with Pima and Estrella colleges. APS, SRP, and TEP are the three largest power companies in the state. If we can coordinate and identify common ground, we will have better qualified applicants and more students in the pipeline. One of our challenges is getting enough qualified instructors – we as an industry group need to let retirees know that there's a need and they can work part time. The more we get together and coordinate these messages it would be a great advantage to both industry and colleges. Von – four or five years ago it was hard to get folks who wanted to teach. But we continue to sell the message and now we are having more retirees express interest.

Dave Thranum – this is my first opportunity to be part of an advisory group. I'm just listening and learning.

Charlie – delighted to have both Daves from Forest Energy here and want them to serve on Mechatronics advisory committee also.

Christine – I don't know if this works around here – we have had several companies in our area in California specify that candidates have to have completed one of our programs.

Dylan – We would like to see at least families of job classifications linked with courses and programs so students know that taking a series of courses opens up

We are hiring about 75% NPC grads – also get candidates with military nuclear experience or other power plant experience. We are going to get to the point we are going to pick up some journeymen. APS and SRP is where we want to be – some lab space, some equipment, site closer to Springerville, so we can get NPC to offer some on-site classes. You are capturing some of the knowledge loss from retirements if

you have classes on site. Now we have some space dedicated. We are moving toward having that space toward the end of the year.

Are Wednesdays a good day as well? Discussion concerning June 5 as a possible date.

Bill Fee – just got an email from the grant reviewers – they want to meet with our industry partners on April 22 when they are here to look over the grant. Von –later in the week would be better since we are coming out of a major outage – scheduled to end on the 19th. But not Friday. Could you counter-propose April 24?

Von – we need to have set dates for advisory meetings throughout the year so we can plan the rest of our calendars around them.