

Automotive/Autobody Advisory Committee Meeting

February 13th, 2023

Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was held via Zoom and chaired by Jeff Beebe, who started the meeting at 5.30pm by welcoming everyone and asking for brief introductions from all members. Jeff provided a screen share of the minutes from the previous meeting for review and comment.

Members in attendance were;

Jeff Beebe, Gerry Wray, John Davis, Ross Weisner, Mark Holloway, Randy Bernard, Brent Burnside, Jacques Navant, Ray Van Loon

a. High School Program Updates

i. [Modesto High School](#)

Kent Hammons was not in attendance

ii. [Patterson High School](#)

Dave Mc Kenzie was not in attendance

iii. [Turlock High School](#)

Dean Massey was not in attendance

iv. [Livermore High School ROP](#)

Randy Bernard gave an update on his high school ROP program. Enrollments are a bit low this year compared to last year but still four classes with twenty students in each. Students not taking on as many projects this year. Randy spoke about the benefits of using student projects to boost interest but also the extra time and effort required by the instructor to facilitate these individual projects. He believes the interest level is increasing, with some students looking to get into the industry. Randy has his students registered with MJC to receive credit for their school class. Still doing ICar with classes looking good for the future.

b. Modesto Junior College Update

i. [Autobody](#)

Jeff Beebe informed the members that the autobody program had record numbers this semester with many students on wait lists. He provided a review of the compressed calendar that is being used. Enrollments are back to pre-Covid numbers. Hoping to get some of the resource requests fulfilled this year including a new spray booth.

ii. **Automotive Technology**

Gerry Wray provided information on the automotive spring and summer 2023 schedules, including the increase in section offerings from fall 2022. Automotive has been trying the compressed calendar with advanced classes and it seems to have worked fairly well. Analysis of data will be done to evaluate options for the future. Student numbers are improving after a steep decline during the Covid pandemic allowing more class choices for students. The free college initiative instigated at MJC has undoubtedly helped with this but it is ended this year. The hope is, however, to further increase enrollments in fall 2022. Brent Burnside asked about integration between automotive and autobody programs and how students could get skills from both areas to make better all-round employees. Gerry and Jeff responded that students had the opportunity to take both programs simultaneously with a good number of students taking classes in both programs either in the same semester of finishing one program and then taking classes in the other. Brent praised MJC for having such good automotive and autobody programs.

iii. **Electric Vehicle Courses**

John Davis provided information on the development of two classes in electric vehicle technologies, one introduction and one advanced. The courses are going through the approval process at the college and should be open for enrollment next year. Some resources have already been secured for delivery of these classes. Mark Holloway asked where these courses would be included in the programs and John Davis responded that they would be part of a certificate. Jeff Beebe provided information on the state approval process time frame. Gerry Wray informed members of the need for industry approval for new certificates in Career Technical Education programs.

Brent Burnside proposed a motion for MJC to provide electric vehicle training courses.

Jacques Navant seconded the motion.

The motion was carried unanimously by all members.

2. Industry Feedback

Brent Burnside spoke about the advanced technologies found on today's vehicles and the need for intelligent technicians who can work with computer systems. Six figure salaries are achievable in four to five years for good technicians. We should be proud of our industry. Estimators are now fully on-line with vehicle damage estimates. Brent offered student visits to his shop. Jacques Navant offered an open door to MJC students to tour his facility which provides ADAS repairs and calibrations. Jacques is willing to help in whatever way possible to assist MJC's programs and students. Mark Holliday talked about the increase in interest in the automotive industry post Covid with a career fair sponsored in Los Angeles with 400 possible attendees. ICar is producing and evaluating new curriculum expected in 2024/25 school year. Mark also provided information on autobody internships in Contra Costa college.

3. Next Meeting?

The next advisory meeting was scheduled for October 2023.

Jeff Beebe thanked everyone for their time and input and closed the meeting at 6.40pm.

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