

Manufacturing Meeting Minutes

Shoreline CC Advisory Committee Meeting

March 4, 2024

8:00 am – 9:30 am

Attending:

Blake Stone – Royell Mfg.
Rick Rudnick – Boeing
Brian Taylor – Siemens
Kari Potter – Shoreline School District
Keith Smith – Shoreline Community College
Dalila Paredes – Shoreline Community College

Agenda:

- Welcome and Introductions
- Campus Updates: Dalila Paredes
- CECO Class Outcomes: Keith Smith
- May 2nd Grand Opening: Keith Smith
- Industry Updates: Input from Industry Representatives
- Adjourn

Welcome and Introductions

Keith discussed the activities of the aerospace manufacturer, where students are involved in making airplane parts. He mentioned his role as the lead instructor for manufacturing and his teaching experience. Jerry introduced himself as a robotics instructor. Blake shared his journey through the machinist programs at Shoreline and his current role as a methods engineer at Royal Manufacturing. Brian introduced himself as the head of semiconductor vertical sales focus at Siemens.

Campus Updates: Dalila Paredes

Dalila discussed the need for additional space for the mechatronics program in the auto building, which currently remains unused. He highlighted the benefits of the partnership with North Seattle, noting that combining their strengths has been successful for both programs. Dalila also mentioned upcoming area reviews for the programs, which involve external consultants interviewing faculty, administration, and students to gather feedback and understand their operations. She also shared that they are working on securing a full-time position for this sector. Finally, Dalila mentioned a potential partnership with British Petroleum to provide paid summer internships and scholarships for students.

CECO Class Outcomes: Keith Smith

Keith discussed a program aimed at students aged 16 to 21 who are either earning their high school diploma or GED. The program is designed to encourage these students to continue their education, either in college or through vocational training. Keith proposed introducing an 'Introduction to Manufacturing' class as part of the program, which would provide students with basic skills and prepare them for entry-level jobs. He suggested using the PMI training process for machinist training classes and adapting some of the modules to suit the needs of unskilled entry-level manufacturing positions.

Keith proposed several ideas for a short training program aimed at introducing the basics of engineering design and manufacturing to high school students. This program could include a basic introduction to industrial safety, an overview of hand tools, and a session on how to read engineering drawings. He also suggested exploring potential synergies between this program and Carrie's high school students. The ultimate goal of this program would be to equip students with skills to put parts together, run a CNC machine, and perform quality assurance tasks. Keith also highlighted the importance of teaching soft skills to high school students.

Discussion

The discussion revolved around the changing nature of their hiring pool and the challenges faced with the younger generation's work ethic. Keith and Brian emphasized the importance of soft skills, noting that attendance and consistency were becoming major issues. They also highlighted that their students, who are part of a skills center, often outperform direct hires. Blake concurred, noting that their company has had to adapt its hiring practices to accommodate people with no experience. Keith concluded the conversation by expressing surprise at the lack of mechanical experience among the younger generation.

May 2nd Grand Opening: Keith Smith

Keith discussed the plan for a May Advisory Committee meeting to be held before the campus celebration for the Cedar building. Keith then moved on to discuss a large celebration planned for May 2nd, which will involve inviting the public, partners, and nearby high schools to tour their building and learn about the programs offered there. Keith proposed the idea of having industry partners present to share their perspectives and talk about why they support the program.

Updates from Industry: Input from Industry Representatives

Blake shared that the company was experiencing a boom with new machines, including a shop floor CMM, and had ordered a 3D printer for in-house 3D printed tooling and assembly jigs. The company was also hiring for all three shifts and looking for more people. Keith showed interest in the type of CMM being used on the shop floor and the new 3D printer, and Blake explained the benefits of these technologies for the company and its operators.

The meeting focused on the hiring needs and challenges faced by the assembly and machine shop shifts. Blake revealed that they needed to hire approximately 20 more employees, preferring to train inexperienced machinists on new machines and processes. Brian emphasized the importance of workforce development, particularly in the semiconductor industry, and highlighted the necessity for digital twin and CNC machine evolution. Brian also discussed the need for new equipment to improve efficiency, particularly in sheet metal work, and shared his experience reviewing numerical control and robot programming practices across various manufacturing units. He highlighted the issue of skill drain in the industry and suggested reviving NC programming internships in collaboration with universities.

Rick proposed the idea of offering summer internships to high school students to provide exposure to the NC Programming field. He suggested a short-term internship of 2-3 months over the summer to allow students to gain experience and decide if they are interested in the field. Brian discussed the potential use of digital tools like Solid Edge in K-12 curriculum, which could prepare students for careers in CNC work and digital machining.

Meeting Adjourned: (AI) KS