



GST PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

PROGRAM: GST

PLACE: McNaughton Dining Room

DATE: December 12, 2012

TIME: 11:00 a.m.

Present:

Andrew Ang, Pacific Associates
Jimmie Crallie, Toyota of Lake City
Kristina Kelley, Carter Subaru
Cindy McDowell, Town & Country Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge
Brad Miller, Les Schwab Tires
John Royce, Lynnwood Honda
Robert Sambo, Land Rover Jaguar
Tom Wilson, High Road Automotive

College Representatives:

Bob Biesiedzinski, Interim Director
Betsy Binnian, ESL Instructor, GST Program
Mark Hankins, GST Instructor
Susan Hoyne, Division Dean
Jacquie Ogilvie, Automotive Dept. Secretary

Introduction

Mark Hankins welcomed and thanked everyone for coming to this meeting. Because past members have retired or taken new jobs outside of the area, we have many new members on the committee. Everyone introduced themselves and we welcomed new members: Kristina Kelly, Cindy McDowell, Robert Sambo, and Brad Miller.

Current Student Status

Mark passed out a sheet with student information from the Fall class 2011 through Fall class 2012 who have completed the GST program. All students in the current internship are employed. Over the past year, ten students went on to one of our two-year programs after completing GST. A total of 16 students went to work in dealerships, and 10 went to independent shops. Two students went to franchise/chain shops; and 5 students dropped from the program or their status is unknown.

Mark discussed the roles of Betsy Binnian and Janos Szablya in the GST program and how all work together to provide the Integrated Basic Education Skills Training (IBEST) component of the program. There is a big emphasis on study skills and employability skills development while students learn automotive technology.

New equipment purchases and donations

Snap-On has equipped the NC3 shop with a John Beam aligner, a wheel balancer, and a tire machine. We have also purchased an alignment machine, and the latest wheel balancer and tire machine for the Hunter shop. For the GST program in particular, \$5000 was available at the end

of spring quarter to purchase electrical simulator boards. These are used to teach basic electricity fundamentals in the AUTOT 121 class. We were borrowing simulators from the TTEN program and this purchase allowed GST to keep the simulators set-up throughout the quarter so students could practice over a longer range of time.

NATEF

The GST notebooks are nearly complete and Mark asked the board for volunteers to do the self-evaluation. The following members have volunteered to participate with the self-evaluation:

Robert Sambo, Land Rover Jaguar
Cindy McDowell, Town & Country Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge
Kristina Kelly, Carter Subaru

The self-evaluation will be done on site and should be accomplished in two to four hours.

Lunch is served - 11:45 a.m.

Future program direction

Mark is planning to have students in the internship return to campus for two or three weeks of project work during the first part of the internship. This would help students to better prepare for their first job at a dealership or shop. While some students have the skill and confidence to succeed right away in their first automotive job, others need to practice certain skills and procedures a few more times to become more confident and competent. Janos Szablya will manage the shop time for the students while Mark works simultaneously with the GST class.

The committee discussed the pros and cons of using the internship as a means to provide this extra practice, versus adding a full-time third quarter of class instruction that would spread out the current instruction over three quarters instead of the current two quarters. It was determined that we should try the internship project work first, before making any radical changes to the current structure of the program. Increasing the number of credits and time commitment would significantly impact students, and the GST program already exceeds NATEF hour requirements for the new Maintenance and Light Repair category. It was also pointed out that the current program is working for most students and employers, especially for those students who want a short-term program to build skills for entry-level positions. It also works well for students transferring into the two-year programs.

Employability Skills integration

Employability Skills are not recognized as a part of NATEF. Because IBEST funding allows us to have Betsy's half-time position, we have the opportunity to develop a high level of employability skill (sometimes called, "soft skills") with our students. She presented the "Internship Evaluation Form" used for employee/intern evaluation and asked the committee for input. Discussion revolved around various employee attributes such as cleanliness, profanity, lying and honesty, smoking, integrity, professionalism, and communication skills. Customer expectations and levels of professionalism are changing the definition of what it takes to be a good tech. Mark will revise the employability form to more specifically address some of these skills.

Betsy also discussed how she is teaching interview skills, resume development, email and voice mail professionalism. We will continue to have students do informational interviewing and committee members verified that the interviews are valuable for students and will continue to participate. Betsy explained that we are sensitive to the time issue and will do our best to arrange student interviews across many employers.

Student attendance, punctuality, productivity, and time management are evaluated each quarter and count for 10% (or more) of a student's grade. We strive for students to be punctual and dependable and they must call or write an email if they are to be absent or late.

Betsy is going to have students develop a job portfolio for the first time next quarter. We are working with helping students identify their interests and experience and to help them better present themselves in a professional manner.

Other news relevant to the program

Bob Biesiedzinski, in his role as Automotive Director, is speaking with the grant writer here at SCC and is excited about a grant that could expand the GST program. We could possibly add a weekend program or expand into a two-year generic program. We should get more information in April about the prospects of the grant (if we get it).

Dean Susan Hoyne thanked everyone for the success of the students and the time put into coming here for these meetings is very much appreciated.

Meeting adjourned at 1:03 p.m.