

AUTO Advisory Committee Meeting

October 12, 2021 / 3:00 p.m.

VIRTUAL MEETING ON ZOOM

Present: Randy Boomsma, Jeannine Christensen, Anne Cochran, Rob Faoro, Anthony Hernandez, Corinne Johnston, Jeremy Kingery, Kris Kowalski, Matt Krogh, Frank LaMantia, Keith Luszczak, Pamela Payne, Katherine Ryan, Ira Siegel, Tamekia Smith, Randy Szewka, Donna Wagner, LoShay Willis, Taylor Wolff, Aurora Zwick

Topic	Discussion
Meeting Called to Order	
Welcome and Introductions	• Ira welcomes everyone, and thanks them for being here. Ira thanks Bette Osborne, program secretary, for her efforts behind the scenes. Ira mentions that our former Assistant Dean, Dr. LoShay Willis, is now the Dean of Career Programs, and Dr. Tamekia Smith is our new Assistant Dean. • Dean Willis speaks about being Assistant Dean for (6) years, then was interim Dean, and is now permanent Dean. She introduces Dr. Smith as Assistant Dean, and thanks everyone for being there, especially during these trying times. She also thanks Ira, Rob Faoro and Bill McGrath, for their excellent leadership with their students. She welcomes and thanks our MACS partners. • Dr. Smith introduces herself as Assistant Dean. She gives background on herself, her career, and thanks the Committee for having her. Ira welcomes her to Moraine Valley. • Introductions continue with everyone else on the meeting. • Ira encourages everyone to contribute during the meeting.
Review and Approval of Spring 2020 Minutes	• Ira expresses that he hopes everyone had a chance to go over the minutes from the Spring 2021 meeting on March 9, and asks if anyone found anything that needs to be revised or corrected. There was no response. After a moment, Jeremy Kingery motioned to accept the minutes; Jeannine Christensen seconded the motion. Minutes were accepted.
Program Review / Covid-19 Concerns and Protocols	• Ira expresses that he is happy to report that we are back face to face in classes. He mentions that we were operating in a hybrid modality since August of last year; in our case, hybrid meant that students were online for (2) hours, and

	She reminded that they just updated the Automotive Standards. Ira states he's attending a webinar covering that the next day. Donna elaborates. Ira mentions that ASE Education Foundation is the program's outside accrediting agency. Ira then asks LoShay how often the internal program review is done; LoShay replies every (5) years. Ira speaks about both reviews being done at the same time made for a very busy year.
Program Review / Manufacturer Programs / Mopar CAP, Nissan and Mercedes-Benz	- Ira speaks about the Mopar CAP program, and that they have their own Advisory Committee/meeting, separate from the General Automotive Program. Rob Faoro coordinates the Mopar CAP program. - Nissan is another part of our program. This is a great opportunity for our students in general auto that want to work at a Nissan or Infiniti dealership. Ira mentions Samuel Frank, who is his main contact with Nissan. He was unable to attend this meeting due to a move. We have (8) students in the Nissan program, (5) working at dealerships. Some not working due to the mechanic's strike, which lasted about (8) weeks. We are still looking to find homes for (3) students. We got another vehicle added to our fleet, a 2018 Nissan Leaf; we now have (3) Nissan Leafs; we have one Infiniti product and (11) Nissan vehicles. The students attend our auto classes in the general program, then they have online classes through Nissan to complete. There are (11) orientation courses, and after they complete those 11 online courses, then Ira can help get them jobs at a Nissan or Infiniti dealership. - Prior to the pandemic, we had formed a partnership with Mercedes Benz. The MB Campus Program is just beginning. Last week, Ira Siegel and Rob Faoro had a meeting with Rick Pennick (Mercedes-Benz USA) and Randy Boomsma (Mercedes-Benz of Orland Park). It was a great meeting; about 2 hours long. Rick Pennick is also a graduate of our program, who went on to work for MB of Chicago and then for the corporate office. Ira asks if Randy has anything to add. Randy mentions they are looking forward to moving forward with us in the future; he has been in touch with interested students, and his HR department is making up flyers to hand out. Ira asks him to send those electronically to our lab Assistant, Randy Szewka, for distribution. Ira mentions that we have a 2017 MB E300 sedan, as well as the Xentry diagnostic scan tool. Ira, Rob and Bill McGrath

Program Review / Manufacturer Programs / Mopar CAP, Nissan and Mercedes-Benz, con't.	participated in some online training from Mercedes-Benz but are looking forward to going to the MB training center in Carol Stream in the future. ● MB students go through our general auto program; During the program, they complete (22) online modules through Mercedes-Benz.
Program Review / Fall 2021 Semester Recap	● Ira talks about the Fall 2021 semester. We had (28) course sections and didn't have to cancel any of them. In fact, we have (40) brand new first semester automotive students; keeping in mind there are only (8) students in a class, so this is good news. Our seat count for the fall semester is at (200). (200) seats doesn't mean (200) students. Ira elaborates on that. That count is (34) more seats than last fall semester. Ira compares fall to fall, spring to spring, and typically there are more students starting in the fall than spring.
Program Review / Training Opportunities	● The ASE Education Foundation requires all instructors receive a minimum of (20) hours of automotive update training per calendar year. So, we provide all of our faculty and our high school instructors with a list of training opportunities. Ira mentions NACAT is scheduled for next August in Cincinnati. ICAIA is looking for a host school for the spring conference. They haven't had a conference since Fall of 2019. The ASE Education Foundation offers update training through webinars and with an annual conference. They're offering a conference in July of next year. There are also opportunities through AC Delco, Stellantis (formerly FCA). Rob can give access to the Stellantis program. Anyone interested in Nissan or MB, contact Ira. Rick Pennick from MB will be reaching out to high school instructors to see if they want to offer MB online courses.
Program Review / Dual Credit	● Ira speaks about a dual credit meeting last week Monday. We haven't had dual credit in a while, but we will be starting up again next year. One or two of our college automotive courses will be offered at select high schools. AUT 112, our introduction course is being offered at the majority of the high schools in our district as well as high schools in the south suburban community college district. AUT 121, our brake systems class, will be offered at Richards, Shepard, and Argo. Ira elaborates on the parameters of the dual credit program. ● Anne Cothran asks when schools are approved for dual credit, do they go through the review with MVCC on their

Program Review / Dual Credit, con't.	shop and tools. She asks when their instructors request equipment for the following year, what would be the best process to use to get some kind of signature that this is an appropriate investment to make. Ira states he can forward the tool list that is on the ASE Education Foundation website and he can write something to explain the benefits of students being able to get dual credit in the high schools. • Ira then speaks about the Bureau of Labor Statistics website that he believes is misleading because it indicates that the auto repair industry is going to see a decrease in technicians; they are making the assumption because of electric vehicles, etc. Ira says he has more employers contacting him today than he did 10-15 years ago. So, their website has misleading information. Randy Boomsma says the need is definitely there, and it isn't going away. He currently needs 2 lube techs and 3- or 4-line techs. They are hard to find. He indicates they are opening a new MB franchise in Romeoville too, so there is great need for more lab techs.
Program Review / Marketing, Recruiting	• Ira states we haven't been able to host groups on campus or visit high school classrooms due to the pandemic. The college has a committee that must approve any campus visits. Unfortunately, we couldn't host our annual High School skills competition earlier this year. Suzanne Kendryna reached out to see if we can offer a smaller version of our High School Skills Competition for the Spring 2022 semester. So, Ira put together a proposal for our college's committee to review. It was forwarded to our dean, Dr. Willis, and it is awaiting approval. We are hoping to be able to do more in the future. We haven't been able to host our annual Car Show either, but we're hoping to do it in the near future. There was a link sent out to the high schools for critique. • Ira talks about a video on the main automotive webpage which is 2.45 minutes long. There is information, links, faculty info, etc. Ira asks high school instructors to share this with their students. Ira elaborates.

Program Review / Labor Market-Opportunities for our Students and Graduates	● Ira was looking at the Bureau of Labor Statistics website projections for auto technicians; for 2019 to 2029, they are calling for a drop in 4% in automotive technician jobs. Ira feels it's misleading due to what they're basing it on. He elaborates. Ira talks about speaking with the owner of a local dealership who basically said he would hire any of our students who have a passion for cars and are willing to learn. He said that they would start entry-level employees at \$16-\$18 per hour. Ira states he's never had a call in his career from an actual dealership owner. Based on the number of calls and emails Ira has been receiving, he believes there is a great need for automotive technician, contrary to BLS projections. Donna Wagner states that some of these statistics are being driven by retirements; people are retiring in droves. She says the average technician will be around for (12) more years, so the 'old' technology will be around for a while. ● Pamela Payne mentions that the BLS forecasts are (18) years out and don't consider anomalies that can occur, such as a pandemic. ● Ira asks Randy Boomsma for his input. Randy says they are just looking for people with drive and passion. He speaks about the lack of interest in people wanting to work in this type of industry; he sites young people being always on video games, etc. They just don't have drive. He also mentions a clean driving record is very important in the screening process. Discussion ensues. ● Ira speaks about the 2+2 agreements with Southern Illinois University and Ferris State University. Students can go on to get a Bachelor's degree after earning their associate's degree at Moraine. He asks the committee members on the call who have done this, Anthony Hernandez and Taylor Wolff, to speak about it. Taylor Wolff comments that she never considered it until the amazing faculty at Moraine pushed her to do it. She is currently working for as a test engineer for Cummins, and would not be there today if it weren't for MVCC. She felt the program greatly prepared her for the classes at SIU, and set her up for success. She attended at the Carbondale campus. Anthony Hernandez states he attended SIU's Chicago campus, which worked out well for him because he had a job in the area. He said he loved MVCC, and they absolutely prepared him for the SIU classes. His classes were on Saturdays and Sundays every weekend for two years. He elaborates. Ira speaks about
--	---

	TCD works with a lot of dealerships, providing job shadowing for their high school students. Discussion ensues. Ira explains that some dealerships are hesitant in hiring anyone under 18 years old due to insurance regulations. Donna Wagner refers him to the ASE Education Foundation resources page for a document that should help dealers work around this. She elaborates. LoShay states this is something we are going to have to research further for program approval. She elaborates. • Ira states he came up with March 8 or March 15, for the spring meeting. Anne Cothran says those dates should work for the high schools.
Closing	• Ira asks for a motion to adjourn. Jeremy Kingery makes the motion; Keith Luszak seconds the motion. • Ira thanks everyone for their participation, wishes them well. Meeting adjourns.