

Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

On May 17 an advisory committee meeting was held. In attendance were S Bates, T Olivares, J Udager, and R Neaman of Praxair.

Due to the economic climate, the focus of this meeting was, the employment picture for our students, and what can we do to help.

Mr. Neaman stated that the welding supply business has come to a extreme slowdown. The last two years were record sales years for him, and now very little. No new welding businesses , and the existing ones are very slow.

A full time instructor would help the program advance, with testing and new classes. There are two new classes that were brought up, as being relevant for employment, and they are; a semester long GTAW class, and a pipe welding class. The feeling was, given the state funding crisis, a instructor becomes less likely.

The rising fees were not felt to be a detriment, due to financial aid.

The advice for students seeking employment was, to improve there skills for employers.

Advisory Meeting

Topics For Discussion

Is the welding business improving, or still stagnant?

Outlook for welder employment in the valley

What would be important classes to implement to improve students chances of employment?

A welding instructor is second on the list for hire, would a full time instructor help develop new classes, or is the current fiscal climate going to prohibit new classes ?

The student tuition fees are going up to \$44 a unit. Do you think this increase will reduce welding students?

The current economic climate makes employment difficult. Do you have any advice for students seeking employment?