4/23/2019

**Palomar College ACR Technology Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

The ACR Technology Advisory Committee meeting was held in the Escondido Campus conference room, the meeting started at 4:00 PM and adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Ed Kirk the instructor and chairperson for the program introduced himself and members followed with introductions.

The meeting started with a brief discussion about the program title change from “HVAC” to “ACR Technology” which matches the course ID’s to reduce confusion. All agreed.

Class schedules were discussed with classes to begin fall 2019, there were no recommendations or comments about making changes.

Ed Kirk provided a description of the program and the need for this training followed by a discussion and a unanimous vote to continue ACR Technology at Palomar College. Everyone confirmed the need for training and commented about the shortage of qualified technicians to fill existing employment positions and follow up training to improve skills of existing workers.

The floor was opened for discussion:

Jason Lynch inquired about sheet metal training, Ed provided information about the sheet metal courses offered by welding. Jason followed about the possibility of having a mock up building or structure to demonstrate proper installation of ductwork in the real world. Some options were brought up, maybe a portable device could be constructed.

Ed provide the plans of the lay out followed with discussion of equipment and classroom & lab. Everyone provided positive comments and expressed how impressed they are with the facilities under construction.

Ed provided plans and recommendations for Phase II of the project to expand into room 405 and adjacent outdoor parking area for the automation, controls and advanced lab/classroom and try to work in seating for 20 students. Everyone expressed the need for this training and an area for equipment to support the training which includes a chiller, hot water boiler and pumps, hydronic advanced controls, air handlers with variable volume capacity. Several members expressed the need for ductless and mini-split systems which are becoming more popular in the industry and recommended equipment and training for support.

Members suggested continuing training on older equipment since southern California is slow at replacing and updating their heaters and air conditioners. Our program already supports old, new and looking to future of the industry.

Ed provided information about the Carrier i-Vu building automation and controls system being used to support training and also the primary control system for lab equipment. Geo Harris discussed the use of KE2 Therm controllers to support our controls training and applications. In addition to the Carrier i-Vu system which applies to equipment the KE2 Therm controllers are for components with-in the refrigeration equipment. Geo described how the KE2 can be used with the Carrier server over WiFi and not require any additional IS equipment. Members agreed and recommend this application.

Ed opened discussion about the wide spread use of smart technology, I-Phones and computers, all members agreed and provided comments about how important this technology has become in our industry and how dependent technicians have become on these devises. Members commented on how the industry is dependent on and tied to the web. Ed suggested involving Computer Science with ACR Technology to improve technicians’ knowledge about networking and web technology, all agreed.

Ed ask for recommendations for a logo, Geo suggested the enthalpy diagram.

Ed opened a discussion about our mission statement, members suggested it was too involved to do at this meeting and suggested Ed follow up.

Ed ask what is the best time of the year to conduct the advisory committee meeting, all advised March or April.

Members suggested the use of desk top trainers to provide hands on experience, Ed agreed and informed members he has already started to order equipment to support smaller devices. Members also discussed the need for proper tools and tool control, and the importance of tools for hands on training.

The committee did a quick tour of the new facilities under construction and all were very impressed with the layout and use of technology in the program and were looking forward to completion. Several members commented about the need to cover the outdoor lab with a roof, everyone agreed.

Attendees:

Chair – Charles “Ed” Kirk

Instructor ACR Technology

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