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

**2023/2024**

Fall Semester Current Courses:

ACR 101; Air Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration; Mechanical

ACR 102; Air Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration; Electrical

ACR 103; Advanced Heating Systems

ACR 105; Refrigerant Management and Recovery

Air Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration program is designed to provide students with the knowledge and hands-on learning skills in the air conditioning and refrigeration industry:  applications of theory, principles, and techniques will include system components and their interrelated functions, safety, procedures, tools, and equipment; proper testing and evaluation skills to trouble shoot and perform repairs as required.

The program also provides retraining and upgrading of skills for maintenance technicians, including EPA certification.

**December 6, 2023**

The Palomar ACR Technology Advisory meeting was held in December this year. The CTE Dean had requested this year that we have our Advisory Board Meetings earlier and that we including them on the invitation list in approximately early November.

Planning started at that point, a date was set, discussion points, food, and attendees were determined. Emails went out to industry representatives and appropriate Palomar employees (see attendee list).

A PowerPoint was created to stay on track and cover the topics of discussion (see end of report). Attendees were directed to the lab and classroom at the Escondido Palomar Campus, myself and Adrian Bowden walked attendees through the lab and explained equipment and learning objectives. Meeting was called to order and all met in the classroom. After a welcome discussion, the courses taught this semester were discussed with brief summaries. Including the new ACR 111 Advanced ACR Installation course covering proper installation techniques for package, split, furnace, and mini-split installations.

Slide 3 & 4 were “what does a typical course look like?” we discussed when class semesters start, times, length of courses, etc. The textbook used for all courses, and the use of Canvas Learning Management System to guide students through homework.

Slide 5 & 6 discussed the specific skills and knowledge taught in the two main core courses; ACR 101 Mechanical and ACR 102 Electrical. This was technical information directed toward the contractors to give them a flavor of what students learn both in the classroom and in the lab.

Slide 7 moved on to the additional items we teach students, soft skills, interviewing, job search, etc.

Slide 8 was the final slide asking what Advisory Board Members could do to support Palomar’s ACR Program. We suggested business field trips, tech ride-alongs, internships, guest speaker opportunities, tool incentives, etc.

We concluded about 1pm and opened the floor to the contractors who primarily commented that we need to work more on the students’ soft skills as this is the area needing the most improvement. Examples were given and all was discussed. More work will need to be done in this area to integrate more of this into our courses.

An email was sent to all attendee’s thanking them for their participation and that I would be following up with them in the next semester regarding visits to classrooms to discuss their companies and employment. They will also be looking forward to me and my students contacting them for job openings towards the end of December.

Attendees:

Chair – Barry Valentine

**Assistant Professor ACR Technology**

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Adrian Bowden

**Adjunct Professor ACR Technology**

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Paule Joubran

Tim Lowe

Casey Edwards

**Action Air Conditioning, Heating and Solar**

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Jason Lynch

**Sterling Mechanical, Owner**

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Rafael Delgado & Hector

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Cesar Cruz-Mora

**Palomar College; Student**

ACR 101

PowerPoint Presentation:

