

VENTURA COLLEGE

Construction Technology Advisory Meeting

November 08, 2013

Minutes

Casey Mansfield conducted.
Ventura College, Rm ECT-9, 4:00-5:00pm

Welcome and Introductions –

Casey Mansfield (V.C.), Steve Stuart (CBO/S.P.), Jim DaPra (DaPra Const.), Greg Radley (Radley Woodworking), Bob Guyer (NAHI), Vince Tovey (Ven. City), Steve Sutton (CBO/P.H.), Don Villafana (Ox. City), Carl Danko (BTC Labs)

Enrollment Steady –

Fall 2013 enrollment was good. Average class size was 27. Several CT classes filled up early with demand for additional courses and students trying for late enrollment. Biggest demand is for NEC classes because of state regulations requiring all electricians to have continuing education. VC is one of the few CC's in California certified as a continuing education provider for electricians.

College Budget -

The college budget seems to be improving. New state tax initiatives have increase revenues and some of that revenue has found its way into the CCC system. The benefit being, less pressure to cancel classes and a 1.5% pay increase for instructors.

Program Expansion –

Many students have mentioned they would be interested in specialized training in areas such as energy and green building. These subjects may well be the opportunities of the future, and students are trying to prepare now. But with budget and enrollment restrictions it is difficult to develop new courses and expand offerings. The only way we can currently offer new courses is to drop existing courses. The problem is that the existing courses are popular and necessary for the degrees. Perhaps with the improving budget situation, there will be an opportunity for program expansion.

ACE Charter High School -

ACE Charter High School in Camarillo is beginning to produce its first graduates. Hopefully this will create a new source of CT students. Joseph Clausi is the Principal. Ventura College is in the process of establishing articulation agreements that would allow their students to obtain dual credit. Dual credit may further encourage their students to attend VC.

Municipal Accessibility Specialist –

Federal stimulus money is available to hire municipal accessibility specialists. Applicants must be certified through either ICC or the state CASP program. Primary duties will be plan examination and field inspection for code compliance related to disabled access regulations in commercial and state government buildings. This creates additional employment opportunities for our students.

Spring Scholarships -

During spring semester there are several industry scholarships available for construction, engineering and architecture majors. The Ventura County Contractors Association has \$25,000. Two local chapters of the National Association of Women in Construction have \$5,000. The Association of General Contractors has \$25,000 available. Most awards are in the \$500-1,500 range. Information will be posted in the classroom.

California Labor Project Agreement –

New laws passed by the California legislature require all state projects be done by union-shop contractors. Non-union contractors will not be allowed to bid on state projects. The merits and fairness of the new laws aside, students need to learn about such regulations and how it will impact their employability.

Upcoming seminars –

2013 Electrical Code Update

Date Dec. 9, Time 1:00-5:00pm, Instructor Steve Sutton (CBO/P.H.)
Location Ventura City Hall, Cost \$20
New and upcoming state regulations

ICC Annual Holiday Party

Date Dec. 12, Time 6:00-9:00pm
Location Topper Pizza, Oxnard, Cost Free

HVAC Inspections

Date Jan. 17, Time 5:00-7:00pm, Instructor David Rushton (CREA/ASHI)
Location Courtyard Marriott, Woodland Hills, Cost \$40 (dinner included)
Design and inspection of heating and air conditioning systems