

Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

PROGRAM COMMITTEE NAME: Aviation Maintenance Advisory Committee

CHAIRPERSON: Kyle Washburn

MEETING DATE: 12/4/18 **MEETING TIME:** 3:00pm – 4:00pm **MEETING PLACE:** AC East Campus Academic Career Center,

REORDER: Rebecca Archer **PREVIOUS MEETING:** 08/04/17

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

List all members of the committee, then place an X in the box left of name of those present

NAME	TITLE	EMPLOYER INFO	PHONE	EMAIL
Dave Wright	Owner	Amarillo Aero	806.236.7504	chopper_doctor@hotmail.com
X Travis Lamance	Maintenance Manager	Apollo Air Medical	806.595.0330	tlamance@integraaviation.com
X Kelvin Hart	Quality Control Manager	Bell Helicopter Textron	806.467.6265	khart@bellflight.com
X Kyle Washburn	Maintenance Manager	Bell Helicopter Textron	806.220.1587	kwashburn@bellflight.com
	Pilot - owner/operator	Blue Sky Aviation	806.584.0443	rb47@suddenlink.net
Richard Brakey	Pilot - owner/operator	Caldwell Banker	806.223.8449	jim@jimuseton.com
X Jim Useton	Pilot - owner/operator	Coyote Flight Center	806.335.9763	jcollier@coyoteflight.com
X Joshua Collier	Owner	Coyote Flight Center	806.678.3736	will@EFA.aero
X Will Peters	Maintenance Manager	English Field Aviation	806.670.1588	hueymech2015@gmail.com
X William Sistrunk	Manager	IAC		

EX-OFFICIO'S PRESENT

Dr. Tamara Clunis	Vice President of Academic Affairs	Amarillo College	806.371.5226	tamaraclunis@actx.edu
X Linda Munoz	Dean of Technical Education	Amarillo College	512.590.2603	lmuno227@actx.edu
	Associate Dean of Technical Education	Amarillo College	806.335.4309	dhall36@actx.edu
David Hall	Aviation Maintenance Program	Amarillo College	806.335.4343	tlsmith27@actx.edu
X Terry Smith	Aviation Maintenance Instructor	Amarillo College	806.335.4381	j0451071@actx.edu
Jim Faustina	Aviation Maintenance Instructor	Amarillo College	806.335.4382	m0191533@actx.edu
Mark Wheat	Aviation Maintenance Program	Amarillo College	806.335.4211	rcarher@actx.edu
X Rebecca Archer	Amarillo College - Aviation Student	Amarillo College	806.674.9251	R0259770@amarillocollege.com
X Ricky Schreffler	Director of Title V Grant	Amarillo College	806.371.5087	pimadden@actx.edu
Pam Madden	Director of Academic Outreach	Amarillo College	806.371.5122	bkburnton@actx.edu
Becky Burton	Technical Education Advisor	Amarillo College	806.371.5355	caarnold@actx.edu
X Claudia Arnold				

1. Welcome and Introductions

Kyle Washburn called the meeting to order and introductions were made.

2. Approval of minutes

There were no outstanding business needs from last meeting so Kyle Washburn made a motion that the minutes be approved as written. Josh Collier seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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3. East Campus Advisor Report

Claudia Arnold reported that in May of 2019 we will be graduating 7 students from their Powerplant courses. We have 19 students are finishing up their General Aviation courses and will return in the Spring to begin their Airframe courses. She said that as of right now we also have 5 or 6 new students who will be working on their General Education requirements or developmental courses, if needed due to our program's Fall start.

4. Student Representative

Ricky Shreffler is a student in his 40's who is just starting our program. He is excited about the many opportunities that a career in Aviation offers and he is enjoying his classes and looks forward to getting into the industry.

5. Affiliation Reports

- Bell Helicopter – Kyle Washburn reported that Bell is currently going through a voluntary separation with their workforce. He stated that he didn't see any open positions now or in the foreseeable future. He said they are working on some contracts with the military at this time and the workforce/workflow is stable. Once the contracts have been completed, the workforce needs could change dramatically. They are working on FAA certification to be able to build the 525 and are working on becoming a Part 21. Kyle reported that 20% of their current workforce has come out of Amarillo College which is roughly 200-215.
- Apollo Air Medical – Travis Lammance said that they are growing pretty steadily. They have added 7 helicopters to their fleet in the last year. They have been on a pretty good spree with hiring lately. He mentioned that a lot of their competitors are having issues in this area. Travis said that he has visited with Terry Smith regarding potential apprenticeship opportunities for our students, but they have been too busy to go any further with that at this time. He did say that he would still be very supportive of this though. Travis mentioned that they have not yet hired any AC graduates. He says they have around 25 mechanics, but only keeps 4 mechanics locally, the rest are stationed at their various bases of operation.
- Coyote Flight School – Joshua Collier said right now they are just taking things easy for Christmas, but expect to ramp things back up in January.
- English Field Aviation – Will Peters stated that he has two employees that graduated from AC. He said it has been hard to find mechanics to hire and they are very short handed. They are in need of some A & P's. He is looking forward to our graduating class and plans to snatch some of them up. Terry said that the current class should be finished with their Airframe in July.
- Route 66 Flight School – Sean Dav's mentioned that 2018 was a banner year for them. With the pilot shortage, they are running wide open. He reported that they partnered with Amarillo College to offer two Private Pilot Ground Schools this year. Some of our Aviation students took those classes.
- International Aerospace Coatings (IAC) – William Sistrunk said that they are in the middle of paint season which runs from about September to May with a break in late November through December for the holidays. They have five hangers in operation at this time. He mentioned with their industry, you do not have to have an A & P to paint an airplane. He does have six A & P mechanics that do the maintenance and service checks, but his demand is not for mechanics, but painters.

6. Vice President of Academic Affairs Report

Michael Kitten extend regrets on behalf of Dr. Clunis. She was not able to attend due to travel.

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7. Dean of Technical Education Report

Mr. Kitten thanked everyone for attending today. He knows how valuable their time is but assured them that their time here is not just so we can “check of a box”. He stated that their attendance and involvement is very important. He said that part of our strategic plan is alignment with industry. We want our curriculum to match what the market needs. He is committed to making that happen so we need these meetings to learn about the needs to which we will respond.

8. Perkins Coordinator Report

The Perkins Coordinator was also unable to attend. Michael brought to our attention that one of the biggest ways we get funding for instructional equipment that our program requires is through the Perkins grant. He brought out that we use the minutes from these meetings to support our need for the equipment that is requested. He emphasized that industry input regarding what equipment our students should be trained on is an important aspect of securing these funds.

9. Coordinator Report

Terry Smith stated that he would like to have more apprenticeship opportunities for our students.

He gave us a virtual tour of the Aviation Maintenance shop, classrooms and our new Aviation hangar via PowerPoint. He mentioned that the FAA says that we can have 25 students per classroom. (Airframe / Powerplant, for a total of 50 students).

Terry talked about our standing in the national average regarding instruction/student testing success according to FAA data. In 2014, we were well below the national standard. In 2015 when Terry came on in 2015, we were still below, and severely so in reciprocating engines. He and his instructors came together and devised a plan to raise that standard. They put some software programs together (test prep etc.). In 2016 the scores in reciprocating engines had improved and we were getting closer to meeting the national standard and by 2017 we were finally above it. We still have some work to do, but for 2018 we are above the standard across the board. Our aim is to be the school that every industry goes to, to hire mechanics.

Mr. Smith reported, said that Amarillo College as a whole has a goal of 70% completion rate by the year 2020. In 2015, we had a 98% completion rate, in 2016, 96% completed and in 2017, we had 100% completion rate!

Terry presented our 5 year projection plan for enrollment. We can currently only have 50 students, we could raise that number by doing some paperwork for the FAA and getting their approval, however we have to maintain a ratio of 10 students to 1 instructor. We currently have 19 students in the General class so 2 of the 3 instructors are being utilized. If we have another 18 students or so come in next year, we will have to hire more instructors to keep the student/teacher ratio. The good news is that we are growing.

Terry mentioned that the FAA is working on revising our curriculum due to industry request for training on more advanced technologies. Under the current curriculum, we teach radial engines, but the new curriculum will not include them. His concern is that there are many vintage aircraft out there that still run those engines with no new mechanics learning how to maintain them. He wrote a rebuttal to industry's request. He cited that there is some responsibility for the industry to train mechanics to their specific platforms. According to FAA regulations, manufacturers, repair stations etc. are required to train their mechanics and quality inspectors to your specific platform. The schools should teach the basics, but cannot possibly teach to every platform out there. We could not have the resources necessary to do so. Also, which platforms would we choose if we could only cover 1 or 2? He said that we don't know exactly what the new curriculum will look like, but we can be sure that changes are coming. He said that we would have a 10 year window to come into compliance.

Terry presented a brief overview of our budget.

Lastly he mentioned that he was recently appointed as a Designated Mechanic Examiner (DME). He is one of only 360 DMEs in the United States. This means that once our student pass their written exams with the FAA, they can take their oral and practical exams right here. The next nearest examiner is Lubbock, TX.

As a side note, Terry informed the committee that we have been offering both Drone Pilot classes and Private Pilot Ground Schools in conjunction with Rt 66 Aviation for CE credit through AC.

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10. Other Business

Dr. Munoz was not on the agenda, but Mr. Kitten invited her to tell the attendees what her role at AC is. She said that she is here to learn. Dr. Clunis has asked that she attend so that when we are talking about any kind of alignment with instruction and developmental education, or any kind of basic instruction helping students to read or do math better, etc. she could be more involved.

11. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Approver's Signature:

Rubiana Mann

Date:

12/20/20

Next Meeting: TBD