

Aviation Technology Programs | Dec. 8, 2022 11:30AM-1:30PM

Meeting purpose: Introduce BILT/BLC models; difficulty to build quorum since COVID.

Amarillo College Aviation Maintenance- Business Leadership Council					
Thursday, December 08, 2022					
11:30- 1:00 PM					
	Name	Employer	Title	Phone	Email
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x	Nick Kemp	Apollo MedFlight	Maintenance Mgr	806 206 8282	nkemp@apolloedflight.com
	Joshua Collier	Coyote Flight Centers	Owner	(806) 335-9763	jcollier@coyoteflight.com
	Greg Langham	English Field Aviation	General Mgr	806 322 -1971	gregl@efa.aero
	Kellie Rodriguez	Albers Air	Admin Assistant	972-989-3438	krdriguez@albers.aero
x	Richard Brakey	Blue Sky Aviation	Owner	(806) 584-0443	rb47@suddenlink.net
	Richard Casler	Lubbock Aero	General Manager	806 747 5101	rcasler@lubbockaero.com
	Rob Winston	Albers Aerospace			
	David Thompson	Albers Aerospace	Executive VP	254-449-6233	dave.thompson@albers.aero
	Jewelie Smith	HR Generalist	Intern. Aerospace Coating (IAC)	806.731.8621	jewelie.smith@iac.aero
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	EX Officio				
x	Terry Smith	Amarillo College	Program Coordinator		
x	Rebecca Archer	Amarillo College	Administrative Support		
x	David Hall	Amarillo College	Associate Dean, TE		
x	Ryan Francis	Amarillo College	Coordinator, Trellis		
x	Dr. Linda Munoz	Amarillo College	Dean, TE		
	Barbara Wahi	Amarillo College	Director, TE, HSI STEM		

Tour of Labs, Hangers – Conversation during Hanger visits:

Terry noted that Wind Energy companies are hire many of their students graduating from A&P; Travis L says that if he can get a list of needed parts in labs, he can work with places to help get some. He noted that he has frequent issues with ICAs; disconnecting with ICAs – new parts needed supplemental inspections.

Lancmore says that PT6 are most planes; 95% of flight mechanics; AC only has one PT6. Nick Kemp says he can provide some parts for PT6.

Brackey asked about teaching updates on avionics; Terry answered that they were not because their facilities / labs did not have the materials but that they had hoped to order some updated electronics bread boards and avionics from the next capital budget.

Meeting begins 11:50AM – Reintroductions

Nick is the Apollo director of maintenance. Apollo covers 12 based in SD, NC, OK – EMS WORKS – a locally owned company.

Brakey was an army aviator; was a corporate pilot for a while. Started Blue Sky Field with antique and classic aircrafts; works on radial engines and older. Works with owner operators.

Old Business - Poor connection with folks since COVID; Bell contact and Advisory Committee Chair is no longer at Bell; currently, there is little communication from Bell.

Terry addressed Rule 147 and the changes including airmen certification and (1) increased projects, (2) tests may be longer, and (3) PSI testing center for FAA exams

Brakey asked how AC recruited their students; Terry noted that it was primarily Success 360 but they want to participate more in HS Career days where Aviation has a table and students come specifically because they are interested in Aviation.

Albers Aerospace is moving into town just near Bell. It is another defense aerospace company but a manufacturer of many different partners (drones, planes); could be a good partner down the road for all programs at East (Tech Ed).

Prior BLC - Critical thinking skills remain as a major need; should be embedded in course curriculum. Curriculum already packed with FAA content, so where do we add project based learning for human skills or critical thinking skills?

The program expectations are high for attendance, dress, conduct. Adding more would be difficult, but could look at how to augment software to support improved instruction (e.g. zSpace).

Travis noted that students should perhaps graduate from the program with a personality report or aptitude test after a career day or an orientation to the program – like a competencies report on mechanical aptitude. He also thought that that the program should provide students a DISC profile so that they know a little about their own personalities (and know how they might interact with others). Incredibly helpful with this team.

Terry pointed out that as a community college, we accept all students. We give them support to learn the content through support instructors and with a tutoring center on campus. While a pre-assessment would be a good way for the faculty to get a baseline on mechanical skills, they would not use the assessment to keep students out of the program. Perhaps we can look into a free assessment that provides this type of feedback.

Terry discussed the 'out of area' recruiters and placements including Michigan, Kansas, Arkansas; Terry is adding a list of recruiters to the BLC tracker. Lower number of students coming into the program may mean that companies may be recruiting out of high schools and leveraging mentorships and apprenticeships rather than college education. We do not know for a fact; [JS firm](#) is a key aviation employment resource

More than 15 employers in the region were contacted to join BLC but only two employers showed up; many spoke with Terry and/or Ryan on the phone and noted the following:

- Albers will visit AC soon to see campus. An AEDC endeavor to grow manufacturing in the region
- Bell Helicopter wants to rebuild the AC to Bell courses to support the new defense contract they have; not ready to do much with that yet because they are not ready to hire.
- Rick Husband Airport - Customer Service Reps are needed as well as baggage handlers, ground operations, pay: \$10/hour
- Current internships or WBL opportunities: Flight mechanics with Tradewinds, English field aviation (need general FAA at minimum), but certifications are not required for all activities at Tradewinds or Field, but a must for servicing.

Next BLC - must endeavor to have a quorum - October 12th Thursday

Adjournment: 1:00PM



Program Coordinator

02/19/2024



Dean of Technical Education

02/19/2024

