

**Meeting of the Electronic Systems Technology Occupational  
Advisory Committee  
Chester County Technical College High School**

**20-Oct-11**

Attendance

Electronic Systems Technology Instructor - present: John Cilladi

Committee Members - present: Chuck Burroughs, John Carey, Deb Strickland, John Strickland, Jake Strickland, Josiah Cilladi, Matthew Cilladi, Stefan Misko, Clifford Smith, Ed Skotlesky and Jim West

Committee Members – not present: Tom Mable, Vinay Sao and Donna White

Removals from the Committee: Tom Evans, John Norton, John Upton and Tom Wright

Tasks

- The committee will consider seeking Industry and/or Community awards through their professional and/or civic networks.
- The committee will consider whether they know any women who work actively in the field of electronics or mechatronics.
- The committee will consider whether co-op opportunities might be available in our places of work.

Decisions

- The committee approved the purchase of the textbook: Semiconductors from Book to Breadboard.
- John investigated to practicality of using “digital” books and decided that this was NOT practical for high school students.
- The committee unanimously acknowledged that the content of the Mechatronics program (CIP 15.0403), which encompasses the majority of the EST program, is much more and very relevant to present industrial automation needs in American factories.
- The committee recommends the orderly transition from 15.0303 to 15.0403 as soon as is economically practical, including the incremental adoption of strategic course modules.
- The committee recommends that the satellite programs be support via another instructor or a teaching assistant under John Cilladi’s guidance that would teach the satellite program.

Accomplishments

- The senior scholarship program was completed and successful.
- Job shadowing will occur at FARO Technologies, Inc. in Kennett Square, PA.

Activities

- Following roll call, John Carey called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.
- John Cilladi distributed the evening's agenda.
- With no discussion, the minutes from 10-Mar-11 were unanimously approved.
- JC discussed a new, proposed course that will teach basic automotive electronics to the automotive tech students in the ATS lab as part of the Sharing Technology Initiative. John openly expressed his concern over him being stretched too thin, potentially causing neglect of the EST program.
  - John Carey recommended that John Cilladi consider developing a teaching assistant to handle the automotive electronics program. This might be a part-time, paid position.
  - John Strickland suggested that a current student be trained to teach the automotive electronics on a lesson-by-lesson basis.
- John Cilladi discussed enrollment challenges the EST is facing. There are currently 13 students enrolled in the program. Seven (7) students are seniors. It has been discussed that the EST program may be reduced, possibly to a half day. Because of the cost of supporting a student, some local high schools have shut out promotion of the EST.
  - Jim West recommended that John Cilladi pull together both former and current students to brainstorm how to use social media to promote the program.
- John Cilladi reported that two of the graduates are at DCCC, one is at Penn State and one at Eastern University. This is four of four having gone on to higher education!
- John Cilladi described the SOAR program as a complement to a comprehensive handout. John asked the committee to consider transforming the EST program into a Mechatronics program (CIP 15.0403).
  - Matthew Cilladi suggested the Mechatronics program elements be more advanced, after the students understand the basics of EST.
  - Jim West suggested John Cilladi investigate [www.factorymation.com](http://www.factorymation.com) for inexpensive PLC's for use by students.
- The TCHS Principal, Michael K., recommended that the Mechatronics program be implemented by rotating students through EST, HVAC & Carpentry to achieve a mechatronics education. This would create an Academy.

Next Meeting of the Committee: Thursday, March 8, 2012, in the EST classroom.

Respectfully submitted,

James K. West  
Secretary of EST OAC