



FLUID POWER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

May 30, 1991

Present: Andy Binversie, Rexroth Corporation
Tom Blansett, Vickers Incorporated
Dorothy Buchan, OCC
George Doig, President, Doig Associates
Jim Hanneman, Oakland Schools
Janet Harp, OCC
Ed Konopka, OCC
Larry Pennefather OCC
Bill Rose, OCC

Dr. Rose welcomed the group and gave a history of the Fluid Power program at OCC. He mentioned that the OCC Foundation has a scholarship available for Fluid Power students. There are good lab and classroom facilities. Mr. Konopka noted that, through the auspices of the Rexroth Corporation, OCC has a fully equipped lab. The Pneumatics area must be upgraded.

Fluid Power is a two-year associate degree program. There is no full-time instructor, but we do have qualified adjuncts.

Computers and software must be incorporated into the program. Mr. Pennefather mentioned a recent conversation he had with Chancellor Fulton regarding the need for a computer center for the Technology Department. She told him to get the necessary information together, so he is forming a committee to explore the possibility of developing such a computer center. Both Vickers and Rexroth are using computers and software for designing circuitry. Pneumatic control software is used only in sizing valves and conductors. Andy Binversie indicated that a person still needs to have a basic understanding of mechanics in order to interpret what the computer is being asked to do.

Dr. Rose asked the committee if they thought OCC should maintain the Fluid Power program. Mr. Binversie stated that everything we use, sit on, even the cars in the parking lot, use hydraulics. Fluid power is not going to go away. Mr. Blansett agreed and said that it is here to stay and is becoming more complex. All areas of technology must be addressed. Mr. Doig asked if OCC is going to continue to offer Fluid Power courses. He stated that if these courses are to be continued, the program must be upgraded.

Dr. Rose would like to use the committee to analyze the curriculum and market the program. OCC has never focused a marketing plan on the Fluid Power program.

In regard to the curriculum, Mr. Pennefather noted that Pneumatics is a requirement in the Climate Control program, and that the Robotics program has Fluid Power courses in its curriculum as well. He also suggested integrating

Microprocessor classes with the Fluid Power program. The current curriculum is lacking a focus on electronics.

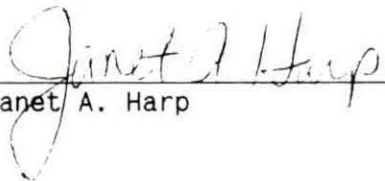
Dr. Rose asked the committee if the handout on the description of the Fluid Power Technician was accurate. He stated that the Dean at Spokane would probably send a list of job titles if contacted.

Mr. Konopka stated that two Fluid Power students are going to Tampa, Florida, to work with the space program.

The evaluation required by the Michigan Department of Education was distributed. Some of the committee members indicated that they were not familiar enough with the program to accurately complete the evaluation.

The next committee meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, September 17, 1991. The agenda will include a review of the evaluations, a review of the present core and required supportive classes (page 103 in the catalog), and a discussion of job classifications and job titles.

Submitted



Janet A. Harp

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