

Meeting Notes

Water/Wastewater Management Advisory Board

December 2, 2021 | 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

[Link to Zoom Recording](#)

Attendees: Kelly Banford | Ron Barney | Michael Crow | Steven Garner | David Hermann | Ed Marlow | Vicky Maryatt | Jon McClain | Andy McGaffic | Heather Ramil | Dawn White | Joe Young

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Current Situation

a. Program Overview/ Updates

- i. the program is currently taught by all adjunct faculty
- ii. Courses and Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) have been updated
 1. SLO assessments were introduced and continue to be performed
- iii. Curriculum has been reordered and students can now enter the program in summer, fall, or spring and can complete the program in three semesters if they take all of the offered courses
- iv. Grants have been awarded to help eliminate barriers to course enrollment and set up training classes to prepare students with the licensing test
- v. Program shifted to an online environment
 1. program will continue in the online environment
 - a. current environment seems to be serving the students well

b. Potential Partnerships / Activity Requests

- i. A private company has reached out to ask if W/WWM classes could be offered to their employees who are interred in getting their W/WW license
- ii. Chemical company has reached out and asked if W/WWM students could perform in-field contaminant testing
- iii. Working to develop a program for OSHA training to provide students with a certificate for ten-hour training

c. Program Demographic

- i. Age range from seventeen years old to sixty-three years old

- ii. Education levels range from GED to PhD; and include those who are licensed engineers wanted a change in career
- iii. Located in numerous counties within California (14 to count)

3. Forming Small Groups

- a. Goal: Help find a way to better connect with the students
 - i. Connect with students (recruitment and enrollment)
 - ii. Help students get jobs
 - iii. Recruitment
 - 1. FLC
 - a. Historically: students came from all over and from different backgrounds / experience levels
 - b. Many folks were introduced to industry through college / personal research as they were looking for an industry that matched their interests
 - c. Finding that many students had not heard or never seen a wastewater treatment plant before taking the course(s)
 - 2. Cuyamaca College
 - a. Twenty-four portable agencies within local area
 - b. Twelve adjunct faculty; from the agencies within the service area
 - c. Historically:
 - i. recruitment has been done by word-of-mouth
 - ii. attend events at high schools
 - d. Recently there has been a focus of recruiting with the veteran population
 - e. Pandemic has affected enrollment; numbers have decreased
 - iv. Needs:
 - 1. Partnerships
 - a. Large Water Utilities
 - i. State
 - ii. Local
 - 1. Regional Water Authority (Sacramento County)
 - 2. CWEA
 - 3. Baywork

- b. School Districts (Los Rios + Beyond)
 - i. Recruitment of students (HS)
 - ii. Promotion of program
 - iii. Contact with non-traditional high schools
 - iv. Dual enrollment opportunities with W/WWM courses
- 2. Career Path Development
 - a. A cohesive approach of career path development
 - i. Beginning from elementary -> beyond
 - ii. Dual enrollment opportunities for High School students
 - iii. Map of all careers related to W/WWM (accounting, planning, engineering, etc.)

4. Need for Local Utilities to Hire Students

- a. Paid Work Experience / Apprenticeship / Job Shadowing
 - i. Internships
 - 1. Engineering internships are prevalent, but need more opportunities for operators / other positions
 - 2. Possibility of a work-study funded position
 - 3. Internship -> job pathways
- b. Hiring
 - i. Job Opportunities
 - 1. Would like a list of employers/ partners who are hiring
- c. Updates:
 - i. City of Sacramento has adopted a blind hiring process
 - ii. CA-NV AWWA: applied and awarded a grant to help with workforce development - still working on details

5. Setting Next Meeting Time / Date

- a. Next Advisory Board Meeting
 - i. [Thursday, February 10th, 2021; 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM](#)