

## **Fall 2021 OAC Meeting**

### Committee Member Roster

Program: Welding

Campus: Lacombe

Associate Provost Approval (signature): \_\_\_\_\_

Name	Employer	Title	Business Address	Contact Information (phone #/email address)
1. Owen Brown	NTCC	Instructor		985-237-0958
2. Matt Hadden	NTCC	Instructor		985-685-8031
3. Owen Smith	NTCC	Dean		545-1217 985-640-622
4. Joshua Felgout	GIS	Business Development		985-226-8067
5.				
6.				



**Occupational Advisory Committee (OAC) Meeting  
Welding – Lacombe Campus  
December 9, 2021**

Welcome and Call Meeting to Order

Discussion of Minutes of Last Meeting

Old Business:

New Business:

1. Business and Industry Update (OAC) or Transfer Program Update (TAC)
2. Curriculum Review
  - i. Review of Admissions Requirements
  - ii. Review of Program Content
  - iii. Review of Program Length
  - iv. Review of Delivery Modes Offered
  - v. Review of Equipment and Materials (OAC only)
  - vi. Transfer Articulation Agreements (TAC only)
3. Program Review
  - i. Discuss Program Assessment Plan Results
  - ii. Student Evaluation
  - iii. Discuss Program Health Index Results (as applicable)
4. Action Items & Action Report (Industry Prompted Action Items)
  - i. Action items requested of the Program of Study from the OAC or TAC
  - ii. Report on progress related to action items established at previous OAC or TAC meeting

(Add any discussion items as needed)

Adjourn



**Electrician Program  
Occupational Advisory Committee Minutes  
December 09, 2021 @ 11:00 am**

**Members Present:** Joshua Falgout (GIS Account Rep/Talent Aquisition), Owen Smith (Dean, Lacombe Campus), Owen Brown (Welding Instructor, Lacombe Campus), Misty Hellmers (Welding Instructor, Lacombe Campus).

The Welding Fall 2021 Advisory Committee meeting was held at the Lacombe Campus. Misty Hellmers called the meeting to order at 11:00 am.

Owen Brown welcomed Mr. Falgout back for a second year and thanked him for always taking time to meet with the Welding students.

Mr. Falgout talked about the Franklinton job site hiring right now for fabricators. He spoke of opportunities for welders to go offshore with guaranteed 84 hours of employment. Starting pay is \$16-\$18 hour based on job skills with opportunity for advancement.

Owen Brown and Misty talked about NCCER curriculum, lab time and class time and enrollment. They discussed NCCER safety and processes. Mr. Falgout stressed the importance of safety and that GIS employees get 4 or 5 days of safety training when hired.

Mr. Falgout talked about GIS being one of the highest paying rope access jobs. He spoke of employees working 14 hours on and 14 hours off. Offshore employees work 21 hours on and 21 hours off. Dean Smith spoke of opportunities of sending graduating students to GIS for employment opportunities.

Owen Brown mentioned that he is always open to receive material donations.

The meeting adjourned at 12:15pm. Owen Brown and Misty Hellmers took Mr. Falgout on a tour of the Welding Room.

The meeting concluded with a tour of the lab.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:50 am.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Mary Slazer".

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Mary Slazer, Director of Institutional Advancement Services

12/15/2021

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Date

## **Spring 2022 OAC Meeting**

# Committee Member Roster

Program: Welding

Campus: Larimore

Associate Provost Approval (signature): \_\_\_\_\_

Name	Employer	Title	Business Address	Contact Information (phone #/email address)
1. Misery Hellmers	NTCC	Instructor		miseryhellmers@northsurreycollege.ca
2. Owen Smith	NTCC	Campus Dean		owensmith.jen@northsurreycollege.ca
3. Joshua Falcout	UTS	Act. Vp/ Talent Acquisition		jfalcout@utsy.com
4. Matthew Modulo	MECO	HR		mmodulo@mecc.com
5. Kimberly Anthony	Tech Centre	HR Director		kimberly@techcentre.com
6. Tiffany Fowler	Dir. Career Services	NTCC		tiffany.fowler@northsurreycollege.ca

Mary Slater

NTCC

Institutional  
Advancement

mary.slater@northsurreycollege.ca



**Occupational Advisory Committee (OAC) Meeting  
Welding – Lacombe Campus  
May 19, 2022**

Welcome and Call Meeting to Order

Discussion of Minutes of Last Meeting

Old Business:

New Business:

1. Business and Industry Update (OAC)
2. Curriculum Review
  - i. Review of Admissions Requirements
  - ii. Review of Program Content
  - iii. Review of Program Length
  - iv. Review of Delivery Modes Offered
  - v. Review of Equipment and Materials (OAC only)
3. Program Review
  - i. Discuss Program Assessment Plan Results
  - ii. Student Evaluation
  - iii. Discuss Program Health Index Results (as applicable)
4. Action Items & Action Report (Industry Prompted Action Items)
  - i. Action items requested of the Program of Study from the OAC
  - ii. Report on progress related to action items established at previous OAC

Adjourn





**Welding Program  
Lacombe Campus  
Occupational Advisory Committee Minutes  
May 19, 2022, 10:00 AM**

**Members Present:** Misty Hellmers – Adjunct Instructor  
Owen Smith – Lacombe Campus Dean  
Tiffany Fowler – Career Services Director  
Jessica Smith – Alliance Laser  
Joshua Falgout – Grand Isle Shipyard  
Matthew Modello – MECO  
Kimberly Anthony - TechCrane

Guest: Mary Slazer, NTCC Director of Institutional Advancement Services

Dean Owen Smith called the meeting to order and welcomed the committee members, confirming that all of the business and industry partners are new to the committee. Dean Smith explained the purpose of the committee is to advise NTCC on the state of the workforce and industry and to review the Program Health Index. Dean Smith then introduced Misty Hellmers, Adjunct Instructor, who teaches welding to Dual Enrollment students from 4 area high schools, with some classes provided at the Lacombe Campus. Hellmers stated that she starts with safety training, then teaches Core, Occupational, and blueprints. She teaches MIG, TIG, Flux, and Stick.

Committee members confirmed that safety training is a priority. Matthew Modello said MECO is placing increasing emphasis on safety the past few years, and applicants are given aptitude and safety tests. He offered to send Hellmers the questions from the MECO safety test so she can be sure they're covered in the curriculum.

Dean Smith stated that Owen Brown, Welding Instructor, has added aluminum welding to the curriculum for some of the more advanced students. She explained that Welding is an open admissions program that takes 18 months to complete a technical diploma. Students have the option to take additional general education classes to earn an Associate's of Applied Science degree. Students earn certifications along the way and can exit with a Certificate of Technical Studies, Technical Diploma, or AAS.

Regarding the Program Health Index, Dean Smith stated that Welding is one of the strongest programs at NTCC, second only to Nursing, and no decrease in enrollment was experienced due to the Covid pandemic. Some students find employment in the field even before graduation. Classes are offered from 7:30 AM to 9:30 PM. Students who took Welding as Dual Enrollment while in high school start at NTCC with Core already completed. Hellmers added that those students earn their OSHA/O card in high school. Dean Smith continued that class delivery is 100% in person, with computer aided lessons for certifications. She stated that Tiffany Fowler teaches Transition into Workforce. She added that students

enjoy the opportunity to hear from industry representatives and advisory committee members are invited to come talk to the classes.

Dean Smith invited industry updates, noting that they help NTCC strengthen programs. Jessica Smith reported that Alliance Laser is a “job shop” where most things are short-run, subcontracts for defense. They weld carbon, stainless, aluminum. She stated it is difficult to find welders who are good with aluminum and can read blueprints. She stated that the company recruits from online job boards and word of mouth. Hellmers added that some graduating students have jobs at Alliance Laser and MECO.

Matthew Modello reported that MECO is growing and they’re targeting 25 hires between the machine shop and fabrication. They currently have 40 employees between two shifts. He added that they prefer to hire 2-4 at a time, with more than that being harder to train. He stated that more of the hires will be for welding, and their HR department uses the company website and Indeed for recruitment. They are looking for employees who can tack, fit, and weld stainless steel, with a few positions for steel and structure. He stated that MECO has hired from NTCC in the past, and it’s harder to find machinists than welders. He noted that the biggest issue with employees who don’t work out is attendance. Dean Smith stated that NTCC experiences the same issue with student attendance. Hellmers stated that she enforces good attendance for her students, adding that she treats the shop like a job, stressing the importance of good work ethic. Modello added that new hires need to be able to interpret drawings and fit, tack, and weld independently.

Joshua Falgout reported that Grand Isle Shipyard is a diverse operation with both onshore and offshore fabrication. They use some exotic metals. He stated that they see students who are close to breaking out and being a welder, but most start as a welder’s helper. He said that the offshore work is appealing because employees have the ability to live almost anywhere in the gulf coast region. GIS has a fabrication yard in Franklinton and they are hoping to target NTCC for new employees there. Currently, they are struggling to find fitters – it’s difficult to find employees who can “do it all.” Fitting involves a lot of measuring and math, so they are hoping to cross-train carpenters as fitters because those skills transfer. Falgout suggested that maybe NTCC could include fitting in the curriculum. He added that there is a state-wide shortage of qualified fitters. He stated that being a good fitter gives welders a competitive edge. GIS is more likely to hire a welder with those skills and they are likely pay them more.

Dean Smith stated that pre-pandemic, NTCC was working with Ingalls Shipbuilding on a non-credit training for fitters and the program was almost ready to launch. She offered to go back to the Associate Provost of Technical Studies to see what might be done. She encouraged the business and industry partners to let Tiffany Fowler know if there are needs that might be met by other NTCC programs, i.e., Machine Tool, Electrical, or Maritime. She asked whether GIS’s offshore workers need to have a TWIC card and Falgout responded they do, and they must be vaccinated. He stated he would like to speak to the students about some initiatives at GIS, such as a bonus after 4-5 years of employment. Fowler asked if the only fabrication yard is in Franklinton. Falgout said GIS does fabrication in Abbeville, Galliano, and Lafitte as well. He added they build at the fabrication units, then install offshore. Dean Smith offered to speak with Owen Brown and Randy Savoie about polling welding students to see if any are interested in getting their TWIC card and perhaps Savoie could help with that. Falgout stated it costs about \$125 and a lot of other offshore facilities require it, too.

Falgout reported that at GIS, welding helpers start at \$13-\$14 an hour. After successfully completing 6GR testing, they’re promoted to welder and earn \$18-\$32 an hour. The offshore employees work 84 hours a week. Jessica Smith reported that Alliance Laser doesn’t hire at the helper level and they pay

entry-level welders \$17-\$18 an hour. Modello reported that MECO hires apprentices at \$15 an hour. Employees who have graduated but have no work experience start as 3<sup>rd</sup> class welders at \$16-\$19.50. Once they pass the 6GR test, they earn \$19.75 to \$24 an hour and experienced 1<sup>st</sup> class welders earn \$23.25 to \$28.50. Falgout reported that welders doing refinery work earn \$42 an hour, but it's not permanent work. They might work for 6 months then have to find another job. Dean Smith told the group that NTCC has a strong alumni base that could be job seeking, so please reach out to Fowler when hiring.

Kimberly Anthony, TechCrane, joined by phone and reported that TechCrane is seeking welding interns and apprentices. Apprentices start at \$15 an hour and after a 60-day probation period, may be eligible for hire as a Weld Tech 1. She added that TechCrane is seeking interns in other areas such as CAD and Design.



Mary Slazer, Director of Institutional Advancement Services

5/24/2022

Date