# Welding Technology

## AGENDA

**Oct 28th, 2025**

**12:00PM – 1:00PM**

Electronic Technology Building
Saulsbury Conference Room

ODESSA COLLEGE

Welcome to Odessa college.

- Introductions
- Department Chair Report – Syed Muhammad R Naqvi
  - Enrollment –
    - **<u>Welding – 922 Total Enrolled at Census.</u>**
    - **<u>Highest Enrollment for Fall Semester ever!!</u>**
      - 259 Regular College in morning and night classes. OCTECHS & Dual Credit students.
      - 473 ECISD Frost Center Dual Credit
      - 44 Crane High School
      - 33 Pecos Welding Training Center.
      - 41 Van Horn ISD Dual Credit.
      - 22 Iraan ISD Dual Credit.
      - 27 Wink ISD Dual Credit.
      - 13 Andrews ISD Dual Credit
      - 10 Grand Falls ISD.
  - Bought New welding machines utilizing Perkins Funding.
  - Welding Custom Training through CE.
  - Custom AWS CWS and CWI Seminar at Odessa College.
  - Company visitation/Tours for welding students.
- **<u>New Business/ Campus Highlights with Dr. Tramaine Anderson-Silvas.</u>**
  - Vision 2030.
  - Total Enrollment Fall 2025 = 10389
  - NC3 Pipe TTT Event at OC in November 2025.
  - New equipment is installed for welding students Lab.
  - Welding department Survey.
- Advisory Concerns/Advice /Recommendations

# Odessa College Welding Advisory Committee Meeting

| **Department Chair**: Syed M. Naqvi | | |
|---|---|---|
| **MEETING DATE:**<br>Tuesday, April 29, 2025 | **MEETING TIME:**<br>12:00 PM – 1:00 PM | **MEETING PLACE:**<br>Odessa College ET Conference Rm#160 |
| **RECORDER:**<br>Luna Rodriguez | **Spring 2025** | **PREVIOUS MEETING:**<br>Tuesday, October 29, 2024 |

**MEMBERS**: (P=PRESENT) Add nonmembers present to bottom of table with heading "Others Present" (OP)

| (P/OP?) | **Name and Title (List all members)**<br>**Email Address and Ph #** | **Business Affiliation** | **Name and Title** |
|---|---|---|---|
| P | Freddie Meldor<br>432-438-2231<br>Freddie.Meldor@linde.com | Linde Gas | TM |
| P | Adam Urrabaz<br>432-332-4906<br>aurrabaz@sandsteel.com | J & J Steel | VP Fabrication |
| P | Larry Hulsey<br>432-381-4200<br>lisahulsey@sbcglobal.net | L&C MFG | Owner |
| P | Eric Solis<br>432-880-3001<br>soliswelding@gmail.com | Solis Welding | Employee |
| P | Jesse Solis<br>432-934-3348<br>soliswelding@gmail.com | Solis Welding | Owner |
| P | Jeff Lawson<br>432-425-9795<br>Jeff.lawson@lwfservices.com | LWF Services | Owner |
| P | Stacie Laramore<br>806-576-6374<br>Stacie.lawramore@isisd.net | ISCISD | Owner |
| P | James Coffey<br>325-260-3667<br>James_coffey@lincolnelectric.com | Lincoln Electric | Tech Sales |
| P | Kevin Hughes<br>432-556-9910<br>Khughesvisitsales@us.com | Vista Sales | Owner |
| P | Marc Hughes<br>432-362-0141<br>Hughes.marc203@yahoo.com | Vista Sales | Machinist |
| P | Geraldyn Kenimer<br>432-250-2722<br>Geraldyn.kehimer@treaterpro.com | Elite Energy Services | Controller |

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|---|---|---|---|
| P | Tamra Sanders<br>432-528-8003<br>tamra@hpiping.com | HP Piping | Assistant |
| P | Gary Henry<br>432-335-6749<br>gmhenry@odesssa.edu | Odessa College | Welding Instructor |
| P | Raymond Bennett<br>325-374-9830<br>Raymond.bennett@sailsley.com | Skills USA | Skills USA |
| P | Stacy Miller<br>346-245-2706<br>stacy@hppiping.com | HP Piping | HR |
| P | Ty Southern<br>936-208-5116<br>ty@hppiping.com | HP Piping | Area Manager |
| P | Tracy Jones<br>432-638-7634<br>tracyjones@odessaecdev.com | Odessa Chamber | Director of Business Retention & Expansion |
| P | Tom Manskey<br>Tome@odessaecodev.com | Economic Development | Director of Economic Development |
| P | Natividad Armendarez<br>432-352-2618<br>natividadarmendarez@ectorcountyisd.org | ECISD/Odessa College | Welding Instructor |
| P | Chris Conner<br>713-417-9304<br>Chris.conner@drillingools.com | Downhole, DTI Insp Sol. | General Manager |
| P | Aaron Trimble<br>atrimble@odessa.edu | Odessa College | Career & Transfer Coordinator |
| OP | Karl Miller<br>Karl.miller@ectorcountyisd.org | OCTECHS | Principal |
| P | Joe Walker<br>jwalker@odessa.edu | OC/ECISD | Welding Instructor |
| P | Phillip Beard<br>pbeard@wlisd.net | Wink-Loving ISD | Welding Instructor |
| OP | Destiny Singh<br>dsingh@odessa.edu | Odessa College | Lead Academic Success Coach |
| P | Charlie | Industrial | |
| P | Ariadra Rameres | CC | |

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| OP | Dr. Tareq Ismail<br>tismail@odessa.edu | Odessa College | Department Chair, Engineering & Technology |
| P | Derek Blackstock<br>432-254-4459<br>Derek.blackstock@Lwfservices.com | LWF Services | Sr. OPS Manager |
| P | Phillip Schmidt<br>440-361-0728<br>Pschmidt_psci@yahoo.com | AWS Seminar | Instructor |
| P | Joe Walker<br>432-770-8535 | AWS Seminar | Instructor |
| P | Mark Gentile<br>915-4219242<br>Mark.Gentile@champion.com | Champion X | OPS Manager |
| OP | Omar Beg<br>214-689-0822<br>Beg.O@utpb.edu | UTPB | Assistant Professor |
| OP | Eric Brown<br>806-548-0821<br>ebrown@odessa.edu | Odessa College | Welding Instructor |
| OP | Marcia Tombosky<br>mtombosky@odessa.edu | ECISD/OC | Director Dual Credit |
| OP | Danna Church<br>432-335-6847<br>dchurch@odessa.edu | Odessa College | Director of Institutional Advancement |
| P | Ashley Lujan<br>832-459-1113<br>Ashley.lujan@angusms.com | Angus Measurement | Director of Manufacturing |
| P | Toby Irish<br>480-652-0670<br>Toby.irish@angusms.com | Angus Measurement | Director of Quality |
| P | Craig Coppedge<br>432-332-1870<br>craig@industrialairtx.com | Industrial Air | President |
| OP | Chris Lawson<br>432-296-0360<br>Chris.lawson@lwfservices.com | Sr. Ops Manager | LWF |
| P | Salvador Lopez Jr.<br>432-438-0645<br>Jr@rig-works.com | Rig Works | Superintendent |
| P | J.W. Brake<br>432-366-4501<br>jwbrake@rig-works.com | Rig Works | Owner |

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| OP | Alejandro Salazar<br>432-425-3650<br>asalazar@odessa.edu | Odessa College | Director of Workforce |
| OP | Kristi Pruitt<br>kpruitt@odessa.edu | Odessa College | Business and Sales Coordinator |
| OP | David Zubiate<br>432-212-1179<br>dzubiate@odessa.edu | Odessa College | Director of Business Partnerships |
| OP | Robert Collins<br>432-335-6484<br>rcollins@odessa.edu | Odessa College | Welding Instructor |
| P | Alberto Lopez<br>830-309-6890 | IPSM | Welding Supervisor |
| P | James Villaloboes<br>432-241-1972<br>jvillaloboes@odessa.edu | B & J Welding | Sales |
| OP | Wissam Alakhtaby<br>432-335-1726<br>walakhtaby@odessa.edu | Odessa College | Instrumental Professor |
| OP | Dr. Tiffani Price<br>432-335-6891<br>price@odessa.edu | Odessa College | Interim Dean, School of Business & Industry<br>Associate Vice-President for Instruction,<br>Curriculum, and Workforce Education |
| OP | Luna Rodriguez<br>432-335-6412<br>lrrodriguez@odessa.edu | Odessa College | Administrative Assistant to the<br>Deans of Instruction |

# AGENDA

| Agenda Item | Action, Discussion, Information | Responsibility |
|---|---|---|
| Welcome & Introductions: | Wissam Alakhtaby, welcomed and called the meeting to order at 12:23 P.M. Introductions conducted among attendees. | Wissam Alakhtaby |
| Review & Approve Minutes from Last Meeting: Tuesday, October 29, 2024 | Prior meeting minutes were reviewed and approved. | Motion to approve by Ryan Merritt, seconded by James Coffey. Motion passed. |
| Department Chair's Program Review and Partnerships: | ○ Bought New 360 VR equipment utilizing Perkins Funding<br>○ Welding Custom Training through CE.<br>○ Custom AWS CWS and CWI Seminar at Odessa College.<br>○ Company visitation/Tours for welding students. | Syed M. Naqvi |
| Enrollment Report: | Total Enrollment in the Welding Program, including extensions. | Syed M. Naqvi |
| New Business & Campus Highlights: | ○ Vision 2030<br>○ Total Enrollment Spring 2025=9617<br>○ Hosted 2nd time Full Skills USA Contest here at OC.<br>○ ATF (Accredited Testing Facility through AWS)<br>○ NC3 TTT Even at OC in November 2025.<br>○ New Equipment is installed for welding students Lab. | Syed M. Naqvi<br>Dr. Tiffani Price |
| Advisory Concerns, Advice and Recommendations: | Advisory Partners comments. | Syed M. Naqvi |
| Adjournment: | The meeting was adjourned at 12:57 P.M. | Syed M. Naqvi |

# MINUTES

| Key Discussion Points | Discussion |
|---|---|
| Department Chair's Report:<br>Program Overview & Partnerships: | Program Overview<br>○ Welcomed members on behalf of Dr. Williams and Dr. Tiffany Price.<br>○ Acknowledged the collaborative success of the Welding Department.<br>○ Introduced department team members and their roles.<br>Partnerships & Training<br>○ Collaborations with AWS and Lincoln Electric were highlighted.<br>○ Custom training opportunities available through Continuing Education (CE).<br>○ Recently held Certified Welding Supervisor training with LWF.<br>Curriculum Updates<br>○ Transition from Advanced Level 1 Certificate to General Level 1 Certificate (now 28 credit hours).<br>○ Plan to split GMAW and FCAW processes to provide students deeper training.<br>Facilities & Equipment<br>○ Addition of Lincoln Electric Virtual Welder 360 via Perkins Grant funding. |

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| Department Chair's Report:<br>Program Overview & Partnerships Continued: | ○ Continued expansion of dual credit and satellite locations (e.g., Crane, Pecos, Iraan). |
| Enrollment Report: | Total Enrollment in Welding Program: 839 Students<br>○ Odessa College (Main Campus): 230<br>○ Frost Technical Center (ECISD): 380<br>○ Crane ISD: 64<br>○ Pecos Training Center: 34<br>○ Van Horn: 39<br>○ Iraan: 37<br>○ Wink: 53<br>○ Andrews: 2<br>Note: Significant growth from 626 (Spring 2024) to 839 (Spring 2025).<br>○ Transition from Advanced Level 1 Certificate to General Level 1 Certificate (now 28 credit hours).<br>○ Plan to split GMAW and FCAW processes to provide students deeper training. |
| New Business & Campus Highlights: | Vision 2030 Overview<br>○ A long-term strategy to address infrastructure and educational growth needs.<br>○ Possibility of extension to "Vision 2040" if bond initiatives do not pass.<br>○ Emphasized the welding department's space limitations due to rapid growth.<br>Campus-Wide Enrollment<br>○ Fall 2024 enrollment exceeded 10,117 students.<br>○ Odessa College marks 11 consecutive years of enrollment growth.<br>○ Spring enrollment remained strong with minimal seasonal decline.<br>SkillsUSA Success<br>○ Hosted 879 students in regional SkillsUSA events, 130+ in welding.<br>○ Event success attributed to faculty and community support. |
| Advisory Concerns/Advice/Recommendations: | Discussion led by: Various Members<br>○ Mock Interview Proposal:<br>Karl Miller, OCTECHS principal proposed industry-led mock interviews and soft skill development sessions for seniors (October–December).<br>Request: Industry volunteers to engage with students during Friday sessions (9 a.m.–12 p.m.).<br>Goal: Prepare students for internships and post-graduation opportunities.<br>○ Partner Acknowledgements:<br>Companies including J&J Steel, Rig-Works, Champion X, Independent Pump & Systems L&L Manufacturing, Industrial Air, and others were thanked for their support and for hiring OC graduates.<br>○ Student Support:<br>Welding program highlighted for offering students zero-cost education and full curriculum support. |
| Adjournment: | The meeting was adjourned at 12:57 P.M. |

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| **CHAIRPERSON SIGNATURE (or designee):** | **DATE:**<br>04.29.25 | **NEXT MEETING:** Fall 2025 |