



HORTICULTURE PROGRAM

Irrigation Certificate/Degree

Employer Advisory Board (EAB) Meeting Agenda

March 22, 2024 | 9:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.

I. Introductions

- Welcome – OH Department Chair Amy Huie
- Employer Advisory Board Member Introductions
 - Gerry Spinelli, UC Cooperative Extension
 - Mike Madewell, Hunter Industries Inc.
 - Debby Dunn, San Diego County Water Authority
 - Malena Medrano-Job Placement Case Manager, Cuyamaca College
 - Monica Rosas, Employer Relations Liaison, Cuyamaca College
 - Lena Heckbert, Career Counselor, Cuyamaca College
 - Amy Huie, Program Coordinator, Cuyamaca College
 - David Boggs-UCSD, Cuyamaca College
 - George Dowden-Dean, Career Education, Cuyamaca College

II. Program Overview:

- A. Huie: shared some background on the last advisor meeting. She reminded group there was an irrigation technology employer advisory board where we focused some on irrigation technology (December 2022). There were some suggestions made at that meetings as well as a discussion around the golf and sports turf course. She indicated there are eight (8) different certificates in Ornamental Horticulture Program and that the College decided to host two (2) advisories each semester. Therefore, in 2 years we will have reviewed and updated to industry standards, all eight (8) courses in the program.

III. Curriculum Review

OH 221-Landscape Construction-Irrigation and Carpentry

- Removing Carpentry from Irrigation Construction Class-previously voted to remove carpentry piece.
 - Question of reducing number of labs. M. Madewell suggested adding trouble shooting electrical to COR
 - Request from David Boggs to expand trouble-shooting station in our field site. Strong Workforce (SWP) funding request will be written next month. David will help develop request. Request was submitted after this meeting April 10, 2024
- M. Madewell, J. Park, and D. Boggs will work on a proposal to the advisory board for a vote

OH 238-Irrigation System Design

- Previous low enrollment and ideas for recruiting students.
- Amy spoke with Tom Groot who said we do not have the students enrolling to allow this class to run. This class was previously a requirement of the Irrigation Certificate/Degree but became an elective. This job is usually done by a specialist landscape architect who specializes in



irrigation. There is not a broad base of interested students who will go onto have jobs in industry with this class. D. Boggs will review principles class and take some parts to embed into other courses. Depending on what is found take to the irrigation system design class

- D. Boggs, shared that good portion of students attend to be a designer not an architect because they are in a career change or side work path. When you take the principles of irrigation, the learning outcome prepares students to design a simple residential irrigation system. As long as Cuyamaca focuses on that in the principal's class, and then leave some of the higher tech items for other classes. D. Boggs could remove some modules from the principal's class to give students more time to learn irrigation components
- M. Madewell, recommended an edit in the objectives item 7, "*Evaluate various **installation** options to determine the one that is most economically feasible and water conserving.*" The word DESIGN should replace INSTALLATION
- J. Park and D. Boggs, will review all of the above and M. Madewell's recommendation will be up for a vote by email with this group.

OH 250-Landscape Water Management

- Changes to QWEL changing to Water Efficient Landscaping-CP (cert professional) per Debby Dunn. Can we offer the class for credit- David. Megan Allison at MiraCosta is working on a work around
- D. Boggs, he will craft into water management class all of the water laws, not just recycled water ground water should be taught
- D. Dunn mentioned they could offer/host the MWELC class at Cuyamaca. Will serve as promotion to the program, and perhaps the WDCP and it has been shortened down to be just the water efficient landscape ordinance
- M. Madewell, added that many of the landscape companies and municipal/city employees attend these classes A. Huei mentioned that we were here and we will be having a sustainable turf and landscape seminar October 25, 2024. Opportunity for CEUs for QAL and QLC
 - D. Dunn can help promote event at San Diego County Water Authority

IV. Stackable Certificates in Irrigation Program

- Dean George Dowden join meeting and spoke about *Stackable Certificates* in Irrigation Program
- Dean provided background on breaking certificates into smaller, more attainable certificates that can be built on
 - He shared it is a great option for students to have "milestones" along the way. Stackable certificates have more weight with employers. For example, students can go to their employer and share they took some courses in landscape irrigation vs they achieved a certificate in landscape irrigation
- By having these certificates, it's an award for the student and a completion for the college
- Sixteen (16) unit minimum certificate of achievement
- Certificates of specialization which can be less than 16 units however, they do not count as completion
- D. Boggs, J. Park, and M. Madewell will work on recommendations on stackable certificates



V. Roundtable from EAB and Next Steps

- Amy asked group for ideas for naming the “Irrigation Training Center”. Center idea to train students on real world troubleshooting of irrigation systems. The ideas to build with SWP funds to build the irrigation-training center where they used to host CLCA training took place
- Print materials discussion, M. Madewell shared about what Hunter is sharing their catalogs. They have electronic versions and D. Boggs post on his Canvas shell both Hunter and Rain Bird catalogs
- Students still are requesting printed versions; Hunter is open to donating them as he does for MiraCosta program
- D. Dunn offered continued support to promote program or offer content material
- M. Rosas, Irrigation Association Trade show happening Nov 4-7 in Long Beach. Free for students: <https://www.irrigation.org/2024Show/>
- D. Boggs to explore G. Spinelli’s idea of incorporating greenhouse irrigation to perhaps utilize the greenhouse for some sort of lab

VI. Adjourn

- Irrigation EAB 3/22/24 Recording https://gcccd-edu.zoom.us/rec/play/in2o3-BiOaTY4Ymn913-9NGdgFvoPykZrVAyVCT-xvphC7_LdN8jC4MMZ_Hsqe0fc6T7Ea_Kb9y4UbwK.BPJGx7skPVCbRQNI
- D. Dunn share with team via chat the CLCA annual renewal pricing:

CLCA Water Management Annual Renewal Pricing

As of April, 2022

Individual Plan	Explanation	CLCA Member Price	Non-Member Price
	Individual manager fee	\$125*	\$250
	Individual per site fee	\$70*	\$140
	Student member (unlimited sites)	\$80*	N/A
	Any government, school or water agency member and non-member (unlimited sites)	\$125 flat rate	N/A