

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lana Gordon at 3:30 P.M. on February 5, 2008 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Valdenia Winn- excused  
Broderick Henderson- excused  
Don Hill- excused  
Don Myers- excused

Committee staff present:

Emalene Correll, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Ryan Hoffman, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Jason Long, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Matt Todd, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Ann Deitcher, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Dave Fritchen, Dept. of Architectural Engineering and Construction Science,  
Kansas State University  
Bruce Dallman, Dean, College of Technology, Pittsburg State University  
Steve Porter, Program Director, Hutchinson Community College Technical Program  
Corey Peterson, Associated General Contractors of Kansas, Inc.  
Bob Totten, Public Affairs Director, Kansas Contractors Association, Inc.

The Chair introduced David Fritchen who told of the impact that the engineering and construction industry had on economic development in Kansas as well as the nation. (Attachment 1).

Mr. Fritchen said that the number of engineering and construction graduates is clearly not meeting the industry demand however the current level of funding, facilities and faculty in the Department of Architectural Engineering will not support enrollment growth beyond the current enrollment of almost 800 students.

Questions and answers followed.

Bruce Dallman told the Committee that recent national studies had brought attention to a critical shortage of qualified personnel within the construction industry. (Attachment 2).

Mr. Dallman said that research by the Construction Industry Institute, a consortium of more than 100 leading firms, indicated that these critical shortages will likely worsen unless significant action is taken.

He said that in order to support continued growth and to meet the future needs and challenges of the construction industry, Pittsburg State University proposes to expand the capacity of the construction program in order to significantly increase the number of students served and consequently the number of graduates entering the workforce. He also told the Committee that 73% of the graduates of their School of Technology remain in the state.

Questions and answers followed.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Economic Development and Tourism Committee at 3:30 P.M. on February 5, 2008 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

Next to appear before the Committee was Steve Porter who spoke of the Building Trades Technology program options offered by Hutchinson Community College and Area Vocational School. (Attachment 3).

Their current workforce development initiative for the Building Trades industry are: Building Trades Technology - Residential, Commercial and Electrical Apprenticeship option; Continuing Education; Strategic Collaboration - Tech Prep as well as with Kansas 4 year colleges and universities.

In summary, Mr. Porter said that his report was reflective of HCC's approach to the delivery of technical education and workforce development to students entering the building trades industry with options for high school students, traditional and non-traditional post-secondary students.

Corey Peterson addressed the Committee saying that his organization fully supported the creation of a school of construction at Pittsburg State University feeling that this program would help fill a void as the industry faces a workforce crisis. (Attachment 4).

He said that PSU as well as the KSU construction science program have 100% placement of graduating students with starting salaries ranging from \$47,000 to \$53,000. Demand is high not only in Kansas but across the country.

Next on the agenda was Bob Totten who said that his organization, wanted to lend their support to the request from Pittsburg State University regarding workforce development. (Attachment 5).

Mr. Totten said that, like every other industry, they were struggling to find qualified employees. They rely on the state's regent institutions to help in this regard and PSU is at the forefront when they look for qualified people.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 6, 2008.

Testimony  
Committee on Economic Development  
February 5, 2008  
Presented by David R. Fritchen, Head  
Department of Architectural Engineering and Construction Science  
Kansas State University

Madame Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am David Fritchen, Department Head for the Department of Architectural Engineering Construction Science in the College of Engineering at Kansas State University. Thank you for the opportunity to appear before the Committee today.

I believe you have come to recognize that the engineering and construction industry has a big impact on Economic Development in Kansas and the nation. Some interesting facts and statistics to consider are as follows:

- The construction industry representing 9% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and more than 12% of America's employers.
- Construction in the State of Kansas contributed \$4 billion to state GDP of \$112 billion in 2006 and employed 65,100 workers, 5% of the nonfarm employment of 1.4 million workers. These figures are expected to continue to grow over the next decade.
- According to the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), the construction industry is expected to increase faster than the national average of 10% by 2016.
- Construction, projected to add about 780,000 jobs, is the only component of the goods-producing sector expected to have a positive employment growth. The BLS predicts that by 2016, the construction industry will employ 8.5 million, up from the 2006 total of 7.7 million. The engineering and construction industry is facing staggering growth while simultaneously wrestling with significant workforce challenges.
- Architecture engineering professions are expected to need 268,000 more workers, a 10.4% change from 2006-2016.
- By 2016 the employment demand for Construction Managers is expected to increase 16.5% and the demand for Cost Estimators is expected to increase 19.5%.

The Department of Architectural Engineering and Construction Science at Kansas State University is the largest department in the College of Engineering with almost 800 students and 16 full time faculty. There are two complimentary programs in the Department. The Architectural Engineering program is a five-year ABET accredited program with an enrollment of almost 400. It is one of only 17 ABET accredited Architectural Engineering programs in the nation. The Construction Science and Management program is a four-year ACCE accredited program with enrollment of almost 400 and is one of about 60 ACCE accredited programs in the nation. The demand for our graduates has increased steadily over the last decade and will continue to increase even more over the next decade. The number of engineering and construction graduates is clearly not meeting the industry demand. Employment statistics generated by senior exit interviews indicate the following:

- In 2007 there were 77 graduates of the Construction Science and Management program. They averaged about two job offers per graduate and the average entry level base salary was about \$50,000 per year, often with a signing bonus. Positions included construction managers, project managers, superintendents, estimators, field engineers, and assistants in these positions. Over 50% of the graduates stayed in Kansas.
- In 2007 there were 44 graduates of the Architectural Engineering program. They averaged over two job offers per graduate and the average entry level base salary was \$51,000, often with a signing bonus. Positions were all with consulting engineer firms that specialize in structural, mechanical, electrical, plumbing and/or fire protection systems. Over 40% of the graduates stayed in Kansas.
- Almost 35% of the students enrolled in the Department of Architectural Engineering and Construction Science are nonresident students, which speaks well for our national reputation for a quality engineering and construction education.
- Graduates from Kansas State University, College of Engineering are highly sought by leading firms from across the nation because of the quality education they received and their demonstrated work ethic, which is not as prevalent in other parts of the country as it is in the Midwest.
- The average retention of freshmen in the department is about 65%. About 78% of those that transfer out of the department stay at KSU in other majors.

Unfortunately the current level of funding, facilities and faculty in the Department of Architectural Engineering will not support enrollment growth beyond the current enrollment of almost 800 students. With a student to faculty ratio of 50:1, our resources are at capacity, so recruiting and retaining additional students is not the solution and would adversely impact the quality of education that we can provide. We are truly grateful to the engineering and construction industry, friends and alumni that have generously supported our programs with scholarships, student and faculty enhancement funds, and fellowships. They have helped us support and maintain current enrollment and department needs. However, the industry demand for our graduates is much greater than we can supply with existing public and private resources.

In conclusion, engineering and construction education along with construction workforce development is critical to economic development in the state of Kansas. The benefits can not be ignored if our state intends to grow economically. We need a trained construction workforce and engineering and construction professionals. Every year, FMI, the nation's leader in consulting and investment banking services for the construction industry, publishes an overview of U.S. construction markets. In the 2005-2006 report, Hoyt Lowder, Senior Vice President, stated, "If you haven't heard the words, you will: labor shortage. It's not just a craftworker shortage, but a shortfall of qualified managers and leaders." He goes on to say, "Labor shortages of craft, supervisory and management are the primary issues in all sectors, segments and markets." As an industry and as citizens of this great State of Kansas, we must recognize this critical workforce crisis and come together to solve it. These shortages affect our entire industry, including suppliers, manufactures, owners, operators, constructors and engineers.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss these critical issues with you and please be assured that Kansas State University and the College of Engineering place a high priority on economic development through quality educational programs.



# Pittsburg State University

COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

## TESTIMONY OF PITTSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY'S COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

#### *Workforce Development: PSU's proposed School of Construction*

February 5, 2008

By Bruce D. Dallman, Dean, College of Technology  
Pittsburg State University

Madame Chair, Madam Vice Chair and members of the committee, my name is Bruce Dallman. I am the Dean of the College of Technology, the academic unit that has proposed to form the School of Construction. This proposed expansion of the College of Technology, while a result of the Kansas Board of Regent's request for "enhancement proposals" is in fact the culmination of over three years of planning and white papers produced to examine both the opportunity as well as the need for expanded Construction Management and Construction Engineering Technology programs at Pittsburg State University. This planning process was completed through the work of an Industrial Advisory Council which is composed of 29 members as well as an 8 member "executive committee" which was formed specifically to address a "Center of Excellence" and "School of Construction" opportunity.

Today, in addition to my testimony, representatives from the Kansas Associated General Contractors, (Mr. Corey Peterson), from the Kansas Contractors Association, (Mr. Bob Totten), from Hutch Community College, (Mr. Steve Porter), from BRB Contractors, Inc., (Mr. Mike Laird), from Kansas State University, (Professor David Fritchen), and also from Pittsburg State University, (Professor James Otter) are here to be able to answer additional questions that you may have.

#### A Critical Need in Workforce Development:

Recent national studies have brought attention to a critical shortage of qualified personnel within the construction industry. Partly due to the impending retirement of large numbers of the Baby Boom generation and also by the increasing demand for well trained and highly skilled college graduates, the industry has a severe shortfall of qualified persons for the foreseeable future. Research by the Construction Industry Institute, a consortium of more than 100 leading firms, indicates that these critical shortages "will likely worsen unless significant action is taken." By 2015, the CII study found, almost half of the

industry's work force will be over 55. (CII workforce Development Committee Research Team 231)

Similarly, a white paper by the Building Futures Council and the Associated General Contractors of America entitled 'The War for Talent' concluded that the industry "is losing the war for talent due to a convergence of demographic, economic, and societal trends." In addition to problems with numbers, the construction industry is also concerned about the lack of ethnic diversity and the relatively low numbers of women in the ranks of potential employees. The management consulting firm FMI Corporation in a recent study noted that 83 percent of all management or supervisory roles in the industry were held by white, non-Hispanic men. Similarly, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that while females hold half of all management and professional jobs in the U.S., only 9 percent of management roles in the construction industry are held by women.

These problems in this vital industry are a concern for the State of Kansas, the region and the nation because of the role the construction industry plays as a driver of the economy. The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that employment within the construction industry account for more than 30 percent of the "goods producing" sector and construction is the only non-services industry expected to see an increase in jobs (11 percent over the next decade).

### Key Proposal Details:

In order to support continued growth and to meet the future needs and challenges of the construction industry, Pittsburg State University proposes to expand the capacity of the construction program in order to significantly increase the number of students served and consequently the number of graduates entering the workforce.

#### Expanded and New Academic Programs

The School of Construction will include several existing, yet expanded, College of Technology programs with additional programs or minor areas of study added in the future as demands arise. The programs that will be part of the School of Construction include:

- Expanded TAC-ABET accredited Construction Engineering Technology program;
- Expanded Construction Management program with the goal of acquiring ACCE accreditation within the next five years;
- Expanded Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) degree program in construction with a goal to establish 2+2 agreements with six to ten community colleges and technical colleges that offer construction-related AAS programs within the next five years; and
- Newly established Bachelor of Science degree program in Safety, Health and Environmental Technology based on the successful undergraduate minor in safety that is already in place.

### Anticipated Future Program Development

As the School of Construction matures, a number of integrated and cross-disciplinary programs will be considered for development and implementation, including:

- Bachelor of Science degree program in land surveying;
- Integrated minor, merging heavy/diesel equipment and construction;
- Cooperative minors in various construction areas such as mechanical/plumbing, electrical and civil construction (highway/bridges/utilities); and
- Certificate programs developed jointly with regional community colleges in an effort to enhance workforce development in skilled crafts workers for the construction industry.

### The Center for Construction Excellence in Field Management and Supervision

Pittsburg State University will establish the Center for Construction Excellence in Field Management and Supervision (CCEFMS), which will be housed in the School of Construction. The center will focus on K-12 engagement, community college and technical college engagement and construction industry professional workshops and continuing education programs.

K-12 engagement will encourage students, with special attention to female and minority sub-populations, to understand and appreciate the construction process as well as the career opportunities in the industry. Programs will include summer workshops, construction education through NCCER (National Center for Construction Education and Research) programming, web site videos and webcam sites for K-12 classes, summer teacher workshops and programs like the Crossland Construction Rodeo.

Community college and technical college engagement will build upon efforts already underway to provide an avenue for students to follow two-year or 2+2 programs with a bachelor's level degree (the current BAS program). A program currently under discussion is a 2+2+2 program with Fort Scott Community College, which will be a NCCER-based construction curriculum that is articulated by FSCC with local high school construction education programs.

Construction industry engagement includes continuing education for existing construction personnel, which is a recurring need within the industry. Currently, many companies must send their employees out of state for those training activities.

The Center for Construction Excellence in Field Management and Supervision will also pursue construction industry applications research. Specific attention in the research and development of new construction materials and methods would be focused on "green" construction materials and installation techniques.

The Center for Construction Excellence in Field Management and Supervision will seek investment from regional and national foundations as well as regional and national construction companies to support the university's outreach programs. The center will be physically housed in the Kansas Technology Center with access to approximately 20

acres of newly acquired university property for the development of best practice field laboratories and construction job site simulations.

### Benefits to the State:

Clearly, this proposal represents a large investment of additional state dollars: it is in an academic discipline that will impact the future economic growth in Kansas. The critical needs that the industry is facing, and the extraordinary career opportunities this proposal represents for Kansas citizens, particularly for its youth, ensures that the return on the investment of additional funding will be significant, producing a multitude of benefits for years to come. Generally, the proposal will:

- Allow the university to respond more adequately to industry needs and challenges;
- Attract professionally and academically qualified faculty;
- Provide additional K-12 activities and partnerships;
- Further develop partnerships with community colleges and technical colleges;
- Attract and retain top quality students; and
- Attract a more diverse student population.

The funding of this proposal would lead to direct and measurable outcomes, both for the university and the construction industry. Construction Engineering Technology (CET) graduates would increase by 38% over five years and Construction Management (CM) graduates would increase by 34%. The newly created degree in Safety, Health and Environmental Management (SH&EM) would grow to over 40 majors in just five years. Finally, the newly created path for two-year college students articulating into the construction program would likely reach 40 in that same time period.

This proposal offers the state of Kansas a unique opportunity to invest in postsecondary education in a way that will have an immediate and significant impact. A highly successful, workforce-oriented program will expand its capacity by nearly 40% and in doing so better meet the needs of an industry that lies at the heart of state and national economies. Pittsburg State University is prepared to meet the challenges and seize the opportunities that this proposal represents and is excited about the prospects of once again leveraging institutional values, resources, and strengths to better serve the citizens of Kansas and beyond.

One example of many ... Tim Sinclair.

Tim Sinclair grew up in Iola, KS where he frequently worked as laborer/tender for his Father in the masonry field. While he loved the construction industry, he learned early on that he did not want to work hard labor in the field. He researched several universities with construction programs and determined that Pittsburg State had the best overall program for hands on, real life experience. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Construction Engineering Technology from Pittsburg State University in 1992. He earned his MBA from Wichita State in 2002. After attending Pitt State, Tim began his



full-time career in the construction industry as an Estimator and Project Manager with Conco, Inc. of Wichita, KS. Four years later he took an Estimator/Project Manager position with Key Construction. After 2 years, he became part owner and Vice President of Operations for Key.

After 6 years with Key, he purchased Pal's Glass in 2002. Pal's Glass has grown from 5 employees with revenue of \$450,000 in 2002 to 35 employees with revenue of \$7,200,000 in 2006. Pal's Glass headquarters is in Wichita, KS. Pal's started their first satellite office in St. Louis, MO in June 2006. In 2004 he purchased a second subcontractor firm, Sinclair Masonry. Sinclair Masonry has grown from 6 employees with revenue of \$250,000 in 2004 to 120 employees with revenue of \$5,200,000 in 2007.

With the goal to change the way construction is completed, Tim is currently in the beginning stages of his 3<sup>rd</sup> endeavor in the construction industry, Masonry Panels, LLC. This company has designed and engineered masonry panels (patent pending) that can be built in a manufacturing plant, not on the jobsite, completely out of actual masonry units, including actual aluminum windows installed, shipped to any jobsite in the country and be erected onto the building. These panels have been designed as load bearing or veneer systems. They are currently completing a 5-story project in Warwick, RI that will include 40,000 square feet of panels that will be erected, from start to finish, in 13 days. Masonry Panels, LLC. has recently received a High Performance Incentive Program (HPIP) for continued development of the company and intends to invest approximately \$9 million in plant and production equipment. The HPIP grant is based upon Masonry Panels, LLC, adding 100 additional jobs in the next five years. Masonry Panels is currently on track for a \$ 7.8 million volume this year and projects \$22.4 million within three years. One last item to note is that of his current \$7.8 million in volume, is from work being completed out of State. However all of those dollars come back to the company and its employees and that is also with between 80 – 90% of the materials for the panel production being from Kansas materials.

#### Final Comments:

We understand that you have many items before you to consider during this session, however we do hope that this proposal to add capacity, to aid in workforce development for the State will be moved forward by your committee.

**Presentation to: House Economic Development/Tourism Committee**  
**By: Steve Porter - Hutchinson Community College and Area Vocational School**  
**Date: February 5, 2008**

Chairperson Gordon and honorable committee members:

Thank you for allowing me to come before your committee today to give a report and provide information about the Building Trades Technology program options that are offered by Hutchinson Community College and Area Vocational School.

Programs include the following traditional and non-traditional training and course delivery options:

**Building Trades Technology**

- Residential Construction – Project based program  
Certificate  
Associate in Applied Science Degree
  
- Commercial Construction – Craft based training  
Associated General Contractors – Kansas, Training Partnership  
Location: AGC - Kansas Construction Training Center – Wichita, Kansas  
Craft based training  
Continuing Education Units (CEUs)  
Certificate – Commercial Construction options  
Associate in Applied Science Degree – Commercial Option
  
- Electrical Apprenticeship  
Partnership with Electrical Workers Local Union #661 - Hutchinson  
Journeyman's preparation (10 credit hours per year for 5 years)  
Associate in Applied Science Degree option  
50 credits + 15 general education credit hours
  
- Continuing Education Units (CEUs)  
Craft Training  
Supervision and Management Training  
Mechanical Contractors  
Electrical Contractors
  
- Strategic collaboration with secondary and other post-secondary institutions.  
Articulation Agreements with Merged programs  
  
-Hutchinson Vocational Center  
-Newton-Brooks Trade Center

Articulation agreement with Kansas technical schools, technical colleges and community colleges

Articulation/collaboration with 4 year colleges and universities  
2+2 Associate degree to Bachelors degree

Tech Prep – Articulation agreements with High School Building Trades programs  
2+2 program, High School through Associate in Applied Science degree

**Economic Development & Tourism**  
**Date:** 2-5-08  
**Attachment #** 3-1

The following information describes HCC's current workforce development initiative for the Building Trades industry.

#### **Building Trades Technology - Residential**

The Building Trades Technology programs at the Hutchinson Vocational Center and the Newton, KS - Brooks Trade Center include a one-year certificate option and a two-year Associate in Applied Science degree option. Both program locations build a residential structure each school year and cover the specific construction processes through the completion of a project based approach.

Because the programs at these locations are merged, secondary and post-secondary students may enroll in the programs at the Hutchinson Vocational Center and Newton-Brooks Trade Center locations. Secondary students may enroll at the beginning of their junior year and can begin the completion of a 32 credit hour certificate, leading to a 64 credit hour Associate in Applied Science degree.

#### **Building Trades Technology - Commercial**

Since 2003, Hutchinson Community College and the Associated General Contractors of Kansas have participated in a training partnership to develop the workforce for the commercial construction industry. This partnership includes craft-based training, customized training, continuing education and degree completion. The training programs are offered in Wichita, Kansas at the AGC-Kansas Construction Training Center.

AGC-Kansas provides the training facility and promotes the commercial craft training classes to their member companies. HCC is responsible for the employment of the training staff and the delivery of the craft-based classes.

Training topics include, but are not limited to the following:

- Forming
- Framing
- Finishing
- Concrete
- Masonry
- Metal Buildings
- Ironworking
- Crew Leadership
- Construction Management – AGC Supervisor Training Program

Students who successfully complete commercial construction craft and supervisory classes offered through this partnership may apply their competency certifications toward a Certificate (32 credit hours) or Associate in Applied Science Degree (64 credit hours) at Hutchinson Community College.

#### **Building Trades Technology – Electrical Apprenticeship option**

A strong partnership continues between HCC and the Hutchinson Electrical Workers Local Union #661. The college provides technical credit hour enrollment to electrical apprentices. Each employee is sponsored by an employer and completes ten (10) credit hours of technical training per year for five (5) years. At the conclusion of the program, the employee will have earned fifty (50) credit hours towards an Associate in Applied Science degree, and prepared to take the Journeyman's license exam. By completing an additional credit hour load of fifteen (15) general education hours, the candidate can receive an AAS Degree in Building Trades under the Electrical Apprenticeship option.

#### **Continuing Education**

Hutchinson Community College offers continuing education to the building trades/construction industry. Specific classes are offered to the various trades so the workforce can complete mandatory and voluntary continuing education hourly requirements. One example is mandatory continuing education for mechanical contractors of 12 hours every 24 months. The college seeks input from industry to provide a rotation of classes that meet the objectives of the continuing education mission.

### **Strategic collaboration – Tech Prep**

High School students are able to earn college credit before entering a technical certificate or Associate in Applied Science degree program at Hutchinson Community College. The partnership allows for secondary and post-secondary instructors to compare their curriculum and look for competency matches that will allow the student to demonstrate their mastery of the subject and then move to the next level upon entrance to college their freshman year. The objective of advancing the student eliminates unnecessary duplication, but allows the student to move to the next challenge in their academic pursuit. Hutchinson Community College allows high school students to earn up to nine (9) credit hours towards the A.A.S. Degree through the Tech Prep program.

### **Strategic collaboration with Kansas 4 year colleges and universities**

HCC appreciates the 2+2 program articulation agreements with Kansas universities. These initiatives allow students to continue their education at a university and complete a four-year degree program. Program completers may attend Pittsburg State University or Kansas State University after completing an Associate in Applied Science degree. A strong relationship exists for our students' transition from HCC to these universities in the Building Trades area.

### **Summary**

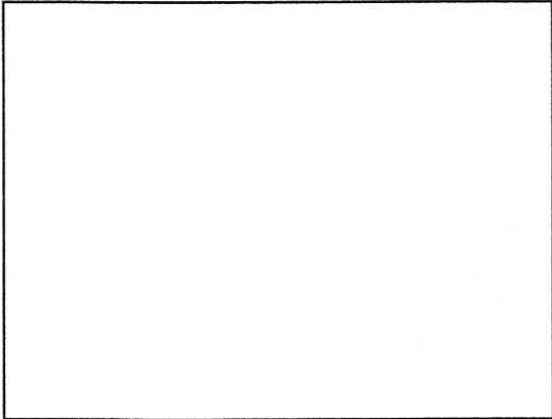
The program information in this report is reflective of HCC's approach to the delivery of technical education and workforce development to students entering the building trades industry with options for high school students, traditional and non-traditional post-secondary students.

If you have additional questions, please contact me at my office phone 620-665-3552, or at my email address, [porters@hutchcc.edu](mailto:porters@hutchcc.edu).

Thank you for your time today.



Steve Porter  
Associate Dean of Instruction  
Hutchinson Community College  
Hutchinson, Kansas



**Hutchinson Community College and Area Vocational School**

House Economic Development / Tourism Committee

Building Trades Technology

February 5, 2008

**Building Trades Technology**

Residential Construction - Project based program

- Hutchinson Vocational Center
- Newton - Brooks Trade Center

Technical Certificate Option                      32 credits

Associate in Applied Science Degree        64 credits

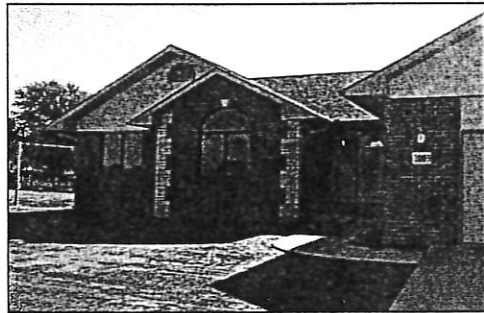
**HCC/AVS - Student Project**



**Framing**



**HCC/AVS - Student Project**



**Hutchinson Vocational Center  
Enrollment**


**Building Trades Technology**

**Commercial Construction  
Training Partnership**

AGC-Kansas and  
Hutchinson Community College

**AGC-Kansas Partnership**



**AGC-Kansas Training Partnership**

**Commercial Construction**

- Craft-based Training classes
- Supervisor Training classes
- Technical Certificate Option 32 credits
- Associate in Applied Science Degree 64 credits
- Continuing Education Seminars (CEUs)

**Building Trades Technology**

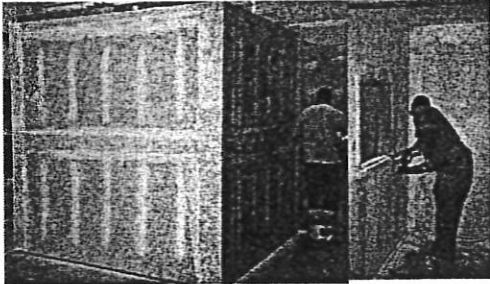
**Commercial Craft Training**

- Forming
- Framing
- Finishing
- Concrete
- Masonry
- Metal Buildings
- Ironworking

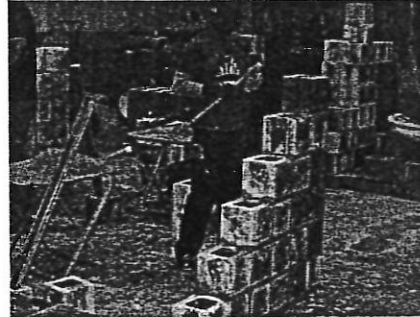
**Framing**



**Finishing**



**Masonry Crafts**



**Masonry Crafts**



**Forming Class**



**Building Trades Technology**

**Electrical Apprenticeship  
Training Partnership**

Electrical Workers Local Union #661 and  
Hutchinson Community College

**Building Trades Technology**

Electrical Apprenticeship Training

Leads to Journeyman's License  
(10 credits/year x 5 years)

Associate in Applied Science Degree

- Technical courses 50 credit hours
- General education courses 15 credit hours

### **Building Trades Technology**

#### Continuing Education Units

- Mechanical Contractors
- Electrical Contractors
- Supervision and Management

### **Building Trades Technology**

#### Articulation Agreement – Merged Programs

- Hutchinson Vocational Center
- Newton-Brooks Trade Center

High School Juniors and Seniors earn up to 32 credit hours before entering their freshman year of college at HCC.

### **Building Trades Technology**

#### Tech Prep Program

Articulation agreement with area High School Building Trades programs.

Students earn up to nine (9) college credit hours by Successfully completing articulated courses and competencies.

### **Collaboration with Kansas Universities**

Associate in Applied Science Degree to Bachelor's Degree

Pittsburg State University  
Kansas State University

### **Contact Information and Questions**

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*Building a Better Kansas Since 1934*

*200 SW 33<sup>rd</sup> St. Topeka, KS 66611 785-266-4015*

**TESTIMONY OF  
ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS OF KANSAS  
BEFORE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM  
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT OVERVIEW**

February 5, 2008

By Corey Peterson, Associated General Contractors of Kansas, Inc.

Madam Chair and members of the committee, my name is Corey Peterson. I am the Executive Vice President for the Associated General Contractors of Kansas, Inc. The AGC of Kansas is a trade association representing the commercial building construction industry, including general contractors, subcontractors and suppliers throughout Kansas (with the exception of Johnson and Wyandotte counties).

**AGC fully supports the creation of a school of construction at Pittsburg State University. AGC feels this program will help fill a void as the industry faces a workforce crisis.**

The AGC of Kansas holds a strategic planning sessions every three years to determine the top priorities of the association. Workforce development surfaced as the top priority for the industry in each of the last four plans. AGC has addressed this at many levels, including grade school, high school, community and technical colleges and four year colleges.

AGC has a goal of establishing a seamless statewide construction education and training system and a school of construction at Pittsburg State with an emphasis on developing field personnel would be an important piece of making this system available.

AGC has enjoyed a long and mutually beneficial partnership with Pittsburg State. As the sponsor of the Advisory Committee for the Construction Engineering and Management programs, AGC has observed first hand how reactive PSU is to the needs of the Kansas construction industry. PSU has demonstrated a desire and ability to shape their programs based on these needs and the result is evident as enrollment has dramatically increased.

Having a focus on field personnel, a school of construction will be an ideal fit for the Kansas construction industry. Hutchinson Community College, with guidance from AGC, has established a two-year Associate's in Applied Science Degree. PSU will now be able to allow graduating students from the HCC program to continue their education in a 2+2 arrangement, eventually achieving a four year Applied Science degree.

PSU, as well as the Kansas State construction science program, have 100% placement of graduating students with starting salaries ranging from \$47,000 to \$53,000. Demand is high not only in Kansas, but across the country. The supply of graduates has not met the demand and demand will only grow as baby boomers continue to retire.

Competition for these graduating seniors is growing each year, as companies from across the country offer more to secure their employment. Additionally, more lucrative internships are being offered, sometimes as early as their freshman year. This will continue as companies look to hire superintendents, project managers and estimators.

AGC will continue its commitment to PSU as it sponsors the AGC Student Chapter and the Advisory Committee and through financial contributions by the Kansas Construction Education Foundation. This Foundation has raised over \$500,000 for the programs at KSU and PSU since the early 1970's. Support remains strong as members raised a record \$47,000 at the AGC Annual Convention just last weekend to help fund scholarships, professorships and activities at the two schools.

PSU has demonstrated a commitment to the Kansas construction industry. Having a skilled construction workforce will keep Kansas competitive when competing with other states for economic development opportunities. On behalf of AGC and the Kansas construction industry, please lend your support to the proposed School of Construction at Pittsburg State University.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Economic Development & Tourism**

Date: 2-5-08

Attachment # 4-1

# THE KANSAS CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION, INC.



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## Testimony

By the Kansas Contractors Association

before the House Economic Development Committee

regarding WorkForce Development

February 5, 2008

Madame Chairman and members of the House Economic Development Committee, I am Bob Totten, Public Affairs Director for the Kansas Contractors Association. Our organization **represents over 350 companies** who are involved in the construction of highways and water treatment facilities in Kansas and the Midwest.

Today, I want to lend our support to the request from Pittsburg State University regarding workforce development. We have had a strong relationship with the Construction Science department at PSU in the past 15 years and believe the plans they have outlined will add to the educational mission of the school.

Like every other industry, we are struggling in getting qualified individuals to be employees of our companies. We rely on our state's regent institutions to help in this regard and PSU is at the forefront when we look for qualified people. That is why

Economic Development & Tourism

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our organization has donated over \$61,000 in grants to PSU over the past 10 years in hopes of helping them grow.

The Highway contractors have made similar donations to all our regent schools in the past 20 years and will continue to do so in the future. It may be a selfish endeavor but we need qualified people to build our roads and bridges. In addition to the workforce development plans at PSU , we partnered with KDOT this year to train over 2,000 craft workers already employed at our companies to do a better job. This craft worker training program along with the workforce development program will make it easier for all of us to have a more efficient way to build roads in Kansas.....and we know you know that is important when you consider passing another highway program next year

I thank you for your time this afternoon and would be glad to answer your questions.