

This is a report on the following motion:

*Motion [3.9.18.1](#): I move that a committee be formed to investigate and report on the feasibility of the AWCI teaching academy becoming an accredited school and that it affiliate with a network of vocational schools and community colleges in collaborative programs relating to watch & clock repair and manufacturing. Also, as amended, to make Peter Pronko the chair of this committee with Jack Kurdzionak as a member. Passed by voice vote*

As chair of this committee I first had discussions with the other committee member Jack Kurdzionak concerning past AWCI academy programs and their relative success or lack thereof.

He explained that during the tenure of our previous Executive Director the academy had a curriculum program that was fully staffed and made available to potential students with minimum requirements for matriculation. It was a very costly program and lost a great deal of money for the Institute. When that program was phased out the Institute continued its education program in its present form which is to offer a collection of courses from which potential students could pick and choose according to their needs and interests.

(A) In regard to the AWCI Institute becoming an accredited teaching facility, I contacted the ACCSC (Accrediting Commission of Career Schools & Colleges) and asked for their criteria for becoming accredited, and received the following response from Jay Bishop their Senior Accreditation Coordinator:

*The ACCSC accreditation process takes between 18-24 months. The average cost is around \$11-12K, excluding the expenses to obtain audited financial statements for the two most recent fiscal years ended. To be determined eligible for accreditation, an institution must demonstrate that it:*

- (a) Falls within the Commission's scope (private, postsecondary career school with trade, occupational, or technical educational objectives)*
- (b) Has the applicable authorization(s) from the state in which it operates*
- (c) At the time of application, the school must **have been licensed by the state(s) and in continuous operation (as a postsecondary school and open to the public)** for the two preceding 2 years.*
- (d) Has graduated a student from the longest program(s) offered. **ACCSC accredits institutions that offer programs of study, not individual courses.***
- (e) Is financially sound to support its educational and operational objectives.*

*(f) Must offer, at a minimum, at least one program that is 300 clock hours or longer in length.*

*(g) Submits a complete application (includes attendance by the on-site director at an ACCSC (Initial Applicant) Accreditation Workshop.*

It is clear that the AWCI teaching academy does not meet requirements (b), (c), (d), and (f) thereby being disqualified from any accreditation program.

In regard to affiliating with a network of community colleges and vocational schools in collaborative programs relating to watch and clock repair, it was determined that such an effort was best left until after the mobile class room issue was decided upon and a history of operation of that classroom was established. If successful it could provide an option to take classes directly to an affiliated school for instruction purposes. This might make a stronger case for negotiations with those schools and colleges rather than bringing students to the Harrison facility.

Peter Pronko, PhD

AWCI Secretary and Committee Chair