New lab exercises in 4th year Production Systems course

Production Systems Labs
The Design and Analysis of Production Systems course that our 4th year students take was our largest ever at 65 students, so we managed five 1.5 hour lab sections each week for that course. We developed a number of new labs so the students were in the lab doing hands-on activities 14 of the 15 weeks in the semester, which was more activity than in prior years. An example of a new set of labs was after the students spent a few weeks using a Toyota ABS module to design, run, and balance an assembly line, they were given a new assembly and asked to design a line, including assigning the work and staffing the line properly to meet a given takt time.

Raymond Work/Study Teams
In January of 2016 and again this week we made our 2nd and 3rd trips to Raymond Corp.’s plant in Greene, NY to give students the experience of “working” on a Toyota production floor. Our primary hosts were Scott Campbell, TPS Manager, Mfg, and Daphne Dallard, a member of the TPS team. A total of nine students participated in these two 3-day events, which focused on process observations and improvements in two welding cells. The RIT teams learn by doing, and hopefully Raymond benefits from our efforts.

Imagine RIT
Many visitors come to RIT each May to see innovations developed by faculty and students. The weather was great so the turnout for indoor activities was down a bit, but aided by our 16 student volunteers we still had a good turnout of lab visitors.

Lab operations

Staffing
Our lab staff this year included Srikanth Peyyeti, Poojith Kalluru, Vaibhav Rungta, Saurabh Paralikar, Siddarth Garg, Ajinkya Jadhav, Kavish Kathawala, and Sidharajsinh Jadeja.

Operations
Our white board helps us manage our lab activities (see photo). Post-its represent projects, and the “columns” are time buckets. The growing pile of post-its on the right are completed lab projects.

Company Visitors
The lab was visited this year by leaders and technical people from Tesla, Alstom, NASA, TI, Disney, Solar City, Nypro, Penske, Harris RF, Polaris, Premier Packaging, and other companies.

Quick Facts

Number of Camp Students (Grades 5-12) (2016) 151
RIT Students Who Participated in the Lab During Courses 277
Other Visitors 1243

Feedback: please contact Prof. John Kaemmerlen (jxkpdm@rit.edu) or Dr. Scott Grasman (segeie@rit.edu)