My gift is working with my hands, my calling is to teach, and my vocation is to help people find their way.

I teach carpentry students who are:
- Kinesthetic learners
- Risk takers
- Less academically inclined
- Challenged with literacy
- Problem solvers
- Motivated by authentic and relevant experiences

This research and innovation project is Phase 1, intended to create four teaching tools to enhance learner communication skills.

College graduates need to reliably demonstrate the vocational learning outcomes and essential employability skills promised to them in their course outlines. This project is an attempt to teach, reinforce, and evaluate the essential employability skill of communication in a technological learning environment.

"The vocational skills get them the job and the employability skills help them keep the job."

### Authentic Teaching Tools Created

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tools</th>
<th>Student Experience</th>
<th>Faculty Experience</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Card Task</td>
<td>Listening, speaking, goal setting</td>
<td>Needs assessment, personal interview, formative evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toolbox Talk</td>
<td>Speaking, writing, leadership, safety</td>
<td>Preparing students for lab, facilitating agenda, foster attendance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Lab Workbook</td>
<td>Reflective practice, writing</td>
<td>Discussion prompt, review, needs assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instructional Video Series</td>
<td>Reading, comprehension, knowledge, safety</td>
<td>Efficient lab time, formative and summative evaluation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Instructional Videos (3/10)

- **Introduction**
  - **Card Task**
    - Listening, speaking, goal setting
  - **Toolbox Talk**
    - Speaking, writing, leadership, safety
  - **Weekly Lab Workbook**
    - Reflective practice, writing
  - **Instructional Video Series**
    - Reading, comprehension, knowledge, safety

### Works Cited

- Program Advisory Committee meeting minutes (December, 2015).

### Next Steps

Phase 2 of this project will utilize the four teaching tools in house, and assess the effectiveness of the tools through pre- and post-test surveys. In Phase 3, the scope of the project will broaden to include the utilization and testing of the tools in other areas of technological studies.