Laney College

Program Review Summary

The purpose of Program Review is to systematically collect, analyze and interpret data related to disciplines, programs and departments for accountability of student learning. In addition, this same collection of data is to be used to integrate program review outcomes with college’s decision-making processes - planning and resource allocation. During the 2009-2010 school year, Laney College engaged in both curriculum and program review to ensure quality of its academic programs, identify effective practices and strengthen data informed decision-making regarding student needs and student success. This summary reflects the instructional program review including recommendations and priorities identified by departmental faculty.

Of the 60 disciplines/programs at Laney College, 51 have completed the program review process with 2 additional programs in progress for an 88% compliance rate. Steps have been put in place to insure that the remaining 7 program reviews will be completed during the Fall 2010 term.

In review of the instructional program reviews submitted, there are six reoccurring themes which reflect the difficult challenges that the district is currently facing:

- There is significant need for full-time faculty to replace those who have retired. In addition where programs have grown or flourished over the last 3-5 years the number of current students require more full time faculty to meet instructional and advisory needs. The current need is approximately 40 full time faculty with a minimum of 15 hired by Fall 2011, 15 hired by Fall 2012 and 10 hired by Fall 2013.
- College wide, programs are in need of upgraded facilities and instructional equipment with accompanying technology. A portion of this need will be met when the 26 smart classrooms will be installed prior to the start of the fall term. However, this will not address the needed upgrades and renovations in all science facilities, or the need for new ventilation systems in the Cosmetology and Welding departments, as well as the Electricity and Electronics Technology program, and Environmental Control Technology program, or sound damping in the Wood Technology program. In addition we will need to build a dedicated Laboratory House for energy retrofitting, auditing as well as demonstration of Zero energy use.
- There is an increased need for instructional supplies in every division. Supplies are critical for practical application of content knowledge by students in a diverse range of programs including the sciences, language arts, career technical education courses, and performing arts.
- Budget cuts have reduced the number of sections below student need and demand. Laney has reduced the number of sections offered from 1032 in spring 2009 to 891 in spring 2010. Representing a total percentage reduction of 13.66%.
- The need for Tutoring was identified in every division at multiple levels such as the Writing Center, the Math Lab, supplemental instruction, and study groups. Due to state and college reductions in allocations there are insufficient funds to provide these services at the 2008-09 or
2009-10 levels. The Offices of Instruction and Student Services are currently in collaboration to develop a college-wide tutoring plan to address these needs.

- The need for tracking job placement and employment data as an assessment tool for program planning.

On the more positive side:

- One third of our programs have reviewed and revised their curriculum during the fall of 2009.
- Programs have recognized the need to offer fee-based courses to meet the community’s demand for life-long learning. A diverse set of courses have been identified and will be forwarded to the curriculum committee in the fall term. Approximate 10-15 courses across the divisions.
- There has been an increase in the offering of contract education courses to enable our programs to more effectively serve students and industry needs with reduced impact on the General Fund. This term we are offering 9 contract education courses in the CTE Division serving 176 students with a cost savings of approximately $50,000.