Program Review Final Report

for

Machining Technology

Submitted to

Dr. Barbara Hanson, Vice President of Instruction

by

Program Review Committee Chair:
Robert Philpott, Dean of Vocational/Technical Education

Program Review Team:
Randy Johnson, Lead Instructor Machining
Kim Lawing, Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness
Shawn Russell, Engineering Department Chair
Patsy Lackey, Administrative Assistant Institutional Effectiveness
Pat Hogan, Business Technologies Department Chair
Vickie Campbell, Lead Instructor Accounting
Quyen York, Technician Career and Testing Services

Signatures:

Lead Instructor:  

Instructional Dean:  

I. List of Team Members

Randy Johnson, Lead Instructor Machining  
Robert Philpott, Dean of Vocational/Technical Education  
Kim Lawing, Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness  
Shawn Russell, Engineering Department Chair  
Patsy Lackey, Administrative Assistant Institutional Effectiveness  
Pat Hogan, Business Technologies Department Chair  
Vickie Campbell, Lead Instructor Accounting  
Quyen York, Technician Career and Testing Services

II. Analysis of Results:

A. Strengths

Program purpose is accurate and up to date.

Exceptional facility used as a showplace for industry looking to move to the area.

Program planning is student outcomes oriented and very well done. Results are used to make things happen in the program.

The Advisory Committee is supportive.

Student surveys indicate that they are well satisfied with the program.

Critical thinking initiatives are integrated into the program to help students achieve better problem solving skills.

Employment trends are very positive for graduates and wages are very good for machinist.

Instructors work as a team and participate in various professional development activities to remain current in their field.

B. Weaknesses

None.
C. Opportunities/Threats

Retention strategies were implemented fall 2007 to combat declining enrollment and retention. These strategies appear to be very successful and will be continued for the coming year.

Students are being offered employment before they graduate. Although this is wonderful for the student our graduation rate suffers. Students should be asked to try to complete the program once they accept the offered employment.

One instructor is leaving to accept a job as a machinist in industry. This leaves a vacancy that will be hard to fill because of the opportunities and wages available to qualified machinist.

III. Committee Recommendations

The team recommended that the college:

Continue program with recommendations and review again in 5 years.

Continue efforts to gain and retain students.

Instructors are commended for their proactive approach to maintaining student enrollment and for incorporating critical thinking initiatives into the program.

Attached: Retention Strategies Implemented Fall 2007
RETENTION STRATEGIES IMPLEMENTED FALL 2007

- Prior to beginning of Fall Semester - Personal phone call to all registered students inviting them to meet with me and tour the Machining Lab and address any problems they may have encountered.
- September 27, 2007 we had a “family night” where all students invited family and friends to the Machining Lab. Purpose was to have the family buy in to their educational process.
- We had members of the counseling staff (Joy Shortell and Lauren Wohlgamuth) meet with our students and discuss memory enhancing techniques and the services offered by both counseling and financial aid. This was done within the first two weeks of the semester.
- We had leaders of local industry come in to speak with the students about the future of manufacturing in our service area and the severe need for manufacturing personnel. (GE, Victaulic, and Interroll.)
- October- we took an overnight field trip to the Charlotte Convention Center to visit the manufacturing exposition.
- Designed a Machining Technology T-Shirt for students and faculty. Each student purchased a t-shirt. We designated each Friday as t-shirt day.
- Implemented an additional, practical critical thinking component into our teaching strategies.
- Becky Fancher and Barbra Brown presented advising information and the Degree Audit Software to our students to facilitate their advising and registration process.
- Tuesday, April 22, we are hosting a technical seminar on advancements in cutting tool technology – students are invited to participate with an opportunity to receive extra credit.
- Fall Semester 2008 my plan is to have former students return to address current students with personal success stories. (Purpose: to address “mid-point crisis”)
- We have designed a student satisfaction survey to be administered Fall Semester 2008.