Program Review Final Report

for

Accounting

Submitted to

Dr. Eric McKeithan, President (and serving as interim Vice President of Instruction)

by

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

Program Review Team:
David Bland, Lead Instructor Accounting
Vickie Campbell, Accounting Instructor
Kim Lawing, Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness
Pat Hogan, Business Department Chair
Patsy Lackey, Administrative Assistant Institutional Effectiveness
Ed Higgins, Public Service Department Chair
Melissa Watson, Lead Instructor Computer Information Systems
Matthew Thomas, Career and Job Placement Specialist

Signatures:

Lead Instructor: ________________________

Instructional Dean: ________________________
I. List of Team Members

David Bland, Lead Instructor Accounting
Vickie Campbell, Accounting Instructor
Robert Philpott, Dean of Vocational/Technical Education
Kim Lawing, Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness
Pat Hogan, Business Department Chair
Patsy Lackey, Administrative Assistant Institutional Effectiveness
Ed Higgins, Public Service Department Chair
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II. Analysis of Results:

A. Strengths

Program enrollment is steadily climbing and full-time ratio is growing.

The graduation rate is good and steady.

Instructors are professional, talented and are involved in professional development activities to maintain certifications and stay current in the field.

The Advisory Committee is loyal and committed to the integrity of the program and helping to stay current in the accounting field.

At the suggestion of the Advisory Committee, Peachtree accounting software has been replaced with Microsoft Accounting software to better prepare students for what is being used in the business environment.

Facilities and equipment are up-to-date and adequate for the program.

On the Graduating Student Opinion Survey, 80% of respondents indicated they were satisfied with the quality of instruction and the program.

On the Currently Enrolled Student Survey 87.5% of respondents indicated they are satisfied with the quality of instruction and with the overall program.

Graduates are finding employment in small businesses.

B. Weaknesses
It is difficult to find qualified adjunct faculty.

C. Opportunities

Most of the program objectives in Strategic Planning on Line (SPOL) should be student learning outcomes. Assessments for the objectives should be made by individuals other than the instructor responsible for the outcome.

The lead instructor is researching the possibility of standardizing ACC 120 and ACC 121 to make sure all students are learning the same amount of material in each section of the course.

Students in the Accounting program take Business Law I but not Business Law II. It was suggested that students would be better prepared if Business Law II were added to the curriculum, however, the number of hours allowed in the program have been reached.

Requests have been made to change MAT 115 to MAT 150 and CIS 111 to CIS 110 because MAT 150 and CIS 110 will transfer to a four-year university. This would prevent the graduate from having to take the classes again after transferring.

Threats

Accounting instructors teach a very large number of students that are in the College Transfer curriculum ACC 120. The Accounting program does not receive the FTE generated by these college transfer students.

The current economic environment could prevent the purchase of updated software in the near future.

The current economic environment could hinder graduates when seeking employment.

III. Committee Recommendations

The team recommended that the college:

Continue program with recommendations.

Continue with plans to change MAT 115 to MAT 140 and CIS 111 to CIS 110.

Research the possibility of updating the curriculum to include Business Law II.

Continue researching the possibility of standardizing ACC 120 and ACC 121.
Vicki Campbell, former lead instructor who is retiring, is commended for her diligence and hard work in keeping the Accounting curriculum current with practices used in the business environment.

Review again in five years.