Program Review Final Report

for

Dental Assisting

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:
Nancy Fetter, Lead Instructor Dental Assisting
Regina McBarron, Allied Health Department Chair
Amanda Lee, Assistant Vice President of Instructional Operations
John Ward, Public Services Department Chair
Matthew Thomas, Career and Job Placement Specialist
Patsy Lackey, Administrative Assistant to the VP of Institutional Effectiveness

Signatures:

Lead Instructor: [Signature]

Instructional Dean: [Signature]
I. List of Team Members

Nancy Fetter, Lead Instructor Dental Assisting
Regina McBarron, Allied Health Department Chair
Robert Philpott, Dean Technical/Vocational Education
Amanda Lee, Assistant Vice President of Instructional Operations
John Ward, Public Services Department Chair
Matthew Thomas, Career and Job Placement Specialist
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II. Analysis of Results:

A. Strengths

There is a cap of 18 students per year in the Dental Assisting program.

The graduation rate is very good in the program.

The Dental Assisting program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association.

The pass rate on the Dental Assisting National Board Exam has been at a rate of 97% over the 17 years of the program. This is not a mandated exam.

Instructors are enthusiastic, professional and talented, and maintain certifications and participate in other professional development activities to remain current in their field.

The program and instructors have an excellent reputation in the dental community.

The Advisory Committee is active, a good cross section of the dental profession and very supportive of the program.

The Dental Assisting and Dental Hygiene students work together as a team in the clinic and this provides excellent working experience for the students.

On the Graduating Student Opinion Survey, 100% of respondents indicated they were satisfied with the quality of the program.

On the Currently Enrolled Student Survey, 100% of respondents indicated they are satisfied with the quality of instruction and the overall program.
Most of the program objectives in Strategic Planning on Line (SPOL) are student learning outcomes. Assessment is performed by someone other than the instructor.

B. Weaknesses

The facility is small and shared with the Dental Hygiene program which limits practice time for students.

The two vacuum pumps in the lab are old and have already been rebuilt at least once.

C. Opportunities

The dental industry is now requiring employees to know how to use paperless technology. Ten computer work stations are needed for the lab in order for students to be proficient in the technology and have job skills required by the industry.

Threats

If the aging equipment goes down this would not allow students to gain the hands on experience required by the program. The equipment is expensive and budget constraint could hinder replacement of the equipment.

Miller Motte offers a Dental Assisting program in our service area. This could take students away from our program or cause the job market to become saturated and cause difficulty for our graduates to find jobs.

III. Committee Recommendations

The team recommended that the college:

Continue program with recommendations.

Continue to stay up to date with equipment and supplies by requesting funds for needed equipment, equipment repair and supplies at the annual budget hearings.

Start the planning process for a major rehab for the aging facility. Include cost of chairs and other equipment to consider progressive replacement. Plan for an alternative location if needed during the rehab.

Work to stay at the forefront of technology in the dental assisting field.

The lead instructor is commended for the high standards and leadership of the program and for her willingness to advance the art and science of the Dental Assisting program.

Review again in five years.