Program Review Final Report

for

Nuclear Technology

Submitted to

Dr. Amanda Lee, Vice President of Instruction

by

Program Review Committee Chair:
Pat Hogan, Dean of Vocational/Technical Education

Program Review Team:
Robert Richey, Nuclear Technology Lead Instructor
Shawn Russell, Department Chair Engineering
John Ward, Department Chair Public Services
Ron Wilson, Architectural Technology Lead Instructor
Kim Lawing, Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness
Matthew Thomas, Career and Job Placement Specialist
Patsy Lackey, Administrative Assistant to the VP of Institutional Effectiveness

Signatures:

Lead Instructor: 

Department Chair: 

Instructional Dean: 

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Thursday, April 5, 2012, 4:00 p.m.

I. List of Team Members

Robert Richey, Nuclear Technology Lead Instructor
Shawn Russell, Department Chair Engineering
John Ward, Department Chair Public Services
Ron Wilson, Architectural Technology Lead Instructor
Pat Hogan, Dean Vocational/Technical Education
Kim Lawing, Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness
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II. Analysis of Results:

A. Strengths

Lead instructor is an asset to the program. He has an excellent relationship with industry leaders at General Electric and GE-Granite.

The program curriculum was revised in 2011 and meets the standards of the North Carolina Community College System. The program has the leadership and ability to adjust the curriculum in response to industry demands/changes.

Program enrollment is strong with diversity in the program.

Program has an excellent graduation rate which industry driven.

96% of graduates indicated on the Graduating Student Opinion Survey that they are satisfied with their program of study and with the quality of instruction in program area courses.

There is only one other Nuclear Technology program offered in North Carolina therefore there is little competition.

Of the 10 students responding to the Graduate Employment Survey, 100% were either employed in their field or continuing their education.

Facilities are adequate for the program.

B. Weaknesses

The Advisory Committee is a monopoly membership made up by GE/Granite employees. These committee members have not responded to requested surveys or
attended committee meetings. Committee membership does not represent the diversity in the student population and area industry.

The program has a narrow focus catering to GE/Granite.

Only one student responded to the Currently Enrolled Student Survey which does not allow for sufficient feedback on the quality of the program and services offered to students.

C. Opportunities

Possibly partner with Progress Energy to search for ways to expand the program and increase enrollment and FTE and broaden the focus of the program.

Explore the opportunity to incorporate the Nuclear Energy Institute’s “Nuclear Uniform Curriculum Program” designed for community colleges to be paired with utilities into the CFCC program.

Explore an initiative with the Alumni Association to retain/maintain contact information on graduates so that CFCC knows where they go and who they work with to serve as networking resources for current students as they search for co-op opportunities.

Threats

There are no immediate local threats however a nuclear incident anywhere in the world could affect the program.

III. Committee Recommendations

The team recommended that the college:

Continue program with recommendations.

Commendation: Lead faculty is commended for the excellent job he does in building and maintaining the excellence of the program and for the positive relationships he maintains with professionals in the industry.

Seek ways to broaden the Advisory Committee membership and participation.

Re-administer the Currently Enrolled Student Survey and encourage greater participation by students.

Update Committee on progress of recommended actions.

Review program again in five years.