Program Review Final Report

for

Welding Technology

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:
Mike Taylor, Lead Instructor Welding Technology
Josh Padgett, Vocational Department Chair
Shawn Russell, Engineering Department Chair
RB Richey, Lead Instructor Nuclear Maintenance Technology
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

Mike Taylor, Lead Instructor Welding Technology
Josh Padgett, Vocational Department Chair
Robert Philpott, Dean Technical/Vocational Education
Shawn Russell, Engineering Department Chair
RB Richey, Lead Instructor Nuclear Maintenance Technology
Matthew Thomas, Career and Job Placement Specialist
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II. Analysis of Results:

A. Strengths

Program enrollment is strong with good diversity in the program.

The Welding Technology program offers both a diploma and certificate.

The facility is adequate for training purposes.

Lead instructor is certified as an American Welding Society Certified Welding Inspector and as a Certified Welding Educator. All instructors have participated in professional development activities to remain current in their field.

Students from other programs are required to take courses that are part of the Welding Technology curriculum. This causes increased enrollment in some of the courses taught in the welding curriculum.

The Advisory Committee is active and very supportive of the program.

Donations of metals by local companies are a great asset to the program as it would be very expensive to buy the amount needed to run the program.

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, 90.9% of respondents indicated they are satisfied with the quality of instruction and the overall program. The remaining 9% did not mark the question on the survey.
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

On the Currently Enrolled Student Survey, students asked that more supplies (scrap metal and welding rods) be available for the student use and that funds be made available for new technology in the program to keep up with the current job market.

A weak economy could limit donations made by local companies of scrap metal needed by the program and this would increase the cost of running the program.

C. Opportunities

If funds were available to purchase a welding simulator, this would decrease the amount of supplies needed to run the program.

A Water Jet Metal Cutter is a Machine System that uses a high pressure water stream (up to 90,000 psi) to cut metals and other materials burr free with no finishing needed. These systems are used today in the fabrication industry where speed, precision, and efficiency are needed. Our program could benefit from having one of these systems by providing our students with modern technology for cutting materials with no air pollution, or UV rays, and is more efficient than Oxy Fuel or Laser cutting.

Threats

If companies did not make donation of scrap metal, it would increase the cost of running the program considerably.

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 and supplies at the annual budget hearings.

The lead instructor is commended for the excellent job he does in running the program and for staying abreast of changes in the industry.

Review again in five years.