**Academic Program Review**

**Review Panel Report**

|  |
| --- |
| **Date of Review:10/21/15**  **Programs Reviewed: Early Childhood Education Infant/Toddler AAS, Early Childhood Education Preschool AAS, Early Childhood Education Family Childcare Certificate, Early Childhood Education Infant/Toddler Certificate, Early Childhood Education Management Certificate, Early Childhood Education Preschool Certificate**  **Names and positions of reviewers:**  **Member\_Devin Fraley\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Position \_Professor of Biology\_\_\_**  **Member\_\_\_\_Sylvia Vega\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Position\_\_\_Coordinator, Learning Support\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **Member\_\_\_\_\_Tracey Powers\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Position\_\_Professor of Professional Development\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **Member\_\_\_\_\_\_Sue Warner\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Position\_\_\_Chair, Social and Behavioral Science\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |
| **Evaluation of Program Description, Vision and Outcomes** |
| Clarity and appropriateness of all program descriptions, mission or vision statements:  Mission statement should read "The mission of CAC's ECE program is to engage . . ." rather than " CAC's ECE program engages. . ." |
| Clarity and appropriateness of all degree and/or certificate program student learning outcomes:  No concerns. |
| **Evaluation of Program Quality** |
| Quality and Appropriateness of Curriculum:  The curriculum for all degrees/certificates presented appear to align well with similar programs in and out of state. |
| Contribution of Program in Meeting Institutional Strategic Goals:  While the self-study extensively explains how the program aligns with CAC's mission and vision, it is not explicitly stated how the program aligns with CAC's strategic goals. The review panel would like to see this expanded upon but otherwise thinks that this program does indeed address and meet institutional strategic goals. |
| Success of Program in Engaging in Continuous Quality Improvement:  The self-study describes the use of collecting data for accrediting boards, using accrediting board standards, curriculum review, etc. for continuous quality improvement. However, the review panel would also like an explanation of how CAC Operational Planning is used for this purpose. |
| **Evaluation of Program Effectiveness** |
| Success of Students in Achieving Appropriate Learning Outcomes**:**  The self-study states that the data collected for the key assessment in a capstone course was aligned to the college's CSLO's, but which CSLOs and how is not clearly defined. Some of the supportive skills addressed in the accreditation process may also address the college's CSLOs but is not clearly defined in the self-study.  With respect to data collected for key elements/supportive skills in the key assignment, student performance declined from Fall 2013 to Fall 2014, in a few cases, by a large percentage. ECE should review this data to determine what factors may have caused this change. |
| Success of Students in Completing CAC Program:  Number of graduates has seen a declining trend since 2010-2011, however this matches the declining trend of enrollment since 2011. The difference between number of graduates and enrollment was explained by the need for students to take courses as requested by their employer. |
| Success of Students Upon Departure from CAC:  No data was presented. The study mentions that it is difficult, as some students take part in the program to retain their current position rather than towards promotion. |
| **Evaluation of Program Viability** |
| Evaluation of Enrollment Trends:  The enrollment trend has overall declined since 2011 (oldest presented data), but the self-study explains the fluctuations in enrollment and states that the department works closely with the ECE advisory board to follow trends in the workforce. |
| Evaluation of Need for Program Based on Economic/Job Market Conditions or Transfer Opportunities:  ECE program directly supports job market by educating students already in the workforce who are trying to meet educational requirements necessary to maintain employment. |
| Evaluation of Program Viability Based on Adequacy of Resources:  As the ECE program has had adequate resources to date, there is no concern about program viability at this time. But the review panel was curious about historical enrollment (pre-2011) to have a broader perspective regarding enrollment trends. |

|  |
| --- |
| **Indicate Panel Reviewers Recommendation for Program:** |
| 1. Continue a Program of Quality |
| **Panel Reviewers Make One of the Following Recommendations Regarding the Program Under Review:**  **1. Continue a Program of Exceptional Quality:** Continuation of the program is recommended without reservation. The reviewers wish to note the exceptional quality of the program. The program is not only seen as valuable to CAC students, a commitment to student’s academic and personal success is clearly evident. The program demonstrates a commitment to continuous quality improvement. The long term viability of the program appears excellent.  **2. Continue a Program of Quality:** Program approval is recommended. Reviews have identified areas of achievement but also specific areas that need to be further addressed. The program meets all evaluative measures of quality and viability, but nonetheless could improve in substantial ways  **3. Conditionally Continue a Program:** Conditional approval is recommended with identification of specific areas requiring significant improvement. Improvements needed and a reasonable time frame for them to be made will be given. Viability of the program may be in question.  **4. Discontinue a Program:** A recommendation to discontinue a program is made if after receiving a conditional recommendation in the previous academic program review the program has failed to make necessary improvements. A recommendation to discontinue a program can be made even in the absence of a previous conditional recommendation if the quality or viability of a program is dismal. *\*Receiving this recommendation does not automatically mean a program will be discontinued. It is merely the recommendation of the review panel. This recommendation means that the College should seriously evaluate discontinuing the program.* |
| **Panel Reviewers Recommendation for Program Action Plan:** |
| The reviewers recommend the program address the following **Strengths**/weaknesses in their Academic Program Review Action Plan:  STRENGTHS:   * degree/certificate program that meet community needs * growth in working to create FTF and ITV cohort in view of enrollment demands * external accrediting agency reviews the program   WEAKNESSES:   * explain tie in with strategic goals and Operational Planning of CAC * need to create internal methods to track student data * some area of self study are vague and don't directly answer the question. |