

Los Angeles City College  
Comprehensive Program Review 2008

Music Department

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**XII. EPC Validation Review**

**I. Department Mission**

*Does the department's mission statement reflect the goals and activities of the department? Is it aligned with the college mission? Explain.*

The Music Department's mission is aligned with the college mission and clearly reflects the goals and activities of the department.

**II. Department Overview**

*Does the department's analysis of trends in enrollment and achievement accurately reflect the data? Have any issues been identified? Explain.*

The Music Department offers a thorough and clear analysis of trends. In fact, they are to be commended on their thoughtful analysis of FTES, especially in three specific areas that actually impact the entire campus. First, they link decreasing high school graduation rates with declining enrollments at LACC. Second, they provide data on impact of full time faculty on enrollment; three faculty members resigned in 2006 and were not replaced until 2007. Enrollment in the classes they taught went down while being taught by adjunct faculty and rose again when those positions were filled by full time faculty a year later. Finally, they discuss the impact of early class cancellations on enrollment.

**III. Vocational Programs**

*Does the department's analysis of labor market demand, advisory board activities and accreditation status (if applicable) reflect the data? Have any issues been identified and are they adequately addressed with appropriate action plans? Explain.*

The department provides an excellent analysis of labor market trends using both the data provided by the state as well as EMSI (formerly CC Benefits).

The department also responds to recommendations from its Advisory Board and has recently added Applied Music to the curriculum, providing students with private music lessons that will enhance their musical skills leading to increased success and retention rates as well as better transfer rates.

**IV. Curriculum**

*Does the department's analysis of enrollment trends accurately reflect the data? Has adequate progress been made in developing and assessing student learning outcomes at the course and program level? Are Title 5 course outline updates current? Has adequate analysis of course scheduling been provided? Explain.*

No courses are currently out of compliance although a number of courses were last updated in 2003 and will need to be updated before December 2008. In reviewing SLO data, we discovered a discrepancy with the dates for the most recent course updates. Many courses that indicate updates in October 2007 were, in fact, not actually updated (there are no SLOs identified) but rather had course changes. These courses(146, 147, 161, 203, 212, 213, 232, 281, 302, 303, 313, 314, 341, 402, 403, 432, 433, 633, 634, 652, 653, 654, 670, and 771) need to be reviewed by the department to ensure their currency.

The department has identified SLOs for 20 of the 122 courses offered in the program (16%) and needs to increase the pace of SLO identification. The department also needs to begin assessing the SLOs that have already been identified. No program SLOs have been identified or assessed.

The committee had some questions regarding course scheduling, specifically the number of courses required to complete the program. The department's analysis indicates the transfer and certificate programs are designed to be completed in 4 semesters, but music courses make up between 7 and 12 units of course work, leaving little time for students to take the other GE courses necessary for graduation or transfer. Unless students seriously overenrolled in courses, they would only be able to add 5 additional courses (15 units) over the course of the 4 semesters.

## V. Departmental Engagement

*Has the department provided a full description of departmental engagement? Explain.*

The department is engaged in significant outreach to the community.

## VI. Professional Development

*Has the department provided a full description of professional development? Explain.*

The Music Department is to be commended on the exceptional professional development of its faculty, both full time and especially their part time faculty. It is clear that they are both practicing musicians and committed educators participating in concert performances as well as conferences.

## VII. Support and Activities

*Has the department provided a full description of support needs of the department? Explain.*

The department has justified the strong need for Instructional Assistant support to manage the music labs, especially for the developing electronic music program.

The department is to be commended for its many awards and scholarships for students (more than 100).

## VIII. Resources: Personnel, Equipment and Facilities

*Has the department provided a full description of resource needs of the department? Explain.*

The department has clearly described the needs of the department in these areas.

**Personnel:** There is a dire need for at least one IA to assist with the music labs. The department has also made a strong case for three additional faculty growth positions: one each in piano, voice, and guitar. Given the demonstrated impact of full vs. part time faculty on student enrollment in their courses, hiring additional full time faculty will strengthen their largest programs.

**Equipment:** This is a department that MUST maintain its equipment at a bare minimum; they have made a strong case for additional equipment for electronic music.

**Facilities:** Clausen Hall needs to be reprogrammed to accommodate the loss of music labs in Franklin Hall. The program review mentioned several times that the department does not approve and the department chair has not signed off on the reprogramming of Clausen Hall that was done in 2002.

## IX. Planning and Budget

*Do the planning goals and action plans reflect the issues raised in the self study? Are they aligned with the Educational Master Plan and the College Strategic Plan? Explain.*

For the most part, the goals and action plans reflect the issues raised in the program review except for job placement. Job placement was identified as an area of weakness but there were no goals or planned actions in this area for the next eight years.

## X. Final Summary by Discipline

*Are all items identified as a Major Concern addressed with a goal and action plan? Explain.*

The only area that was identified as a weakness that is not addressed in the planned actions is to increase the value of the department's certificates through job placement.

## XI. Department Strengths and Weaknesses

*Has the department provided an adequate analysis of departmental strengths and weaknesses? Explain.*

The department provides an excellent analysis; however, we would suggest that due to changes in VTEA and Program 100 funding, they should consider changing Budget and Expenditure from Satisfactory to Needs Improvement.

## XII. Recommendations/Commendations

*What recommendations based on your comments do you have for this department? What commendations do you have for this department? Explain.*

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Increase the pace of SLO identification; it should be at or above 50% and is currently at 16%.
2. Begin to assess identified SLOs.
3. Develop and assess program SLOs for AA and 3 certificates.
4. Review the course update information to ensure continued currency of courses.
5. Develop a goal and action plan for job placement.

### COMMENDATIONS

1. This is overall a very thorough program review with a thoughtful analysis of student enrollment.
2. The professional development of the faculty in general and for the part time faculty in particular
3. The number of awards and scholarships offered in the department
4. Transfer rates are high; this may be due in part to the department's own Transfer Day.
5. The department's use of data to justify its argument for faculty growth positions in voice, piano, and guitar
6. Music majors can gain competency in each of the three areas delineated in the Core Competencies.
7. Thoughtful programming of courses, especially avoiding Monday classes for once a week classes