

Los Angeles City College  
Comprehensive Program Review 2008

Philosophy Department

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**XI. Dean's Review and Recommendations**

**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 mission is aligned with the college mission in supporting transfer and degree programs. The department's mission is reflected in goals that focus on student success.

**II. Department Overview**

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

I concur with the department's analysis of enrollment trends in that the department enrollment trends reflect college-wide trends. Issues may be explored further to determine cause and possible ways of increasing 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.*

This Department is NOT a Vocational department.

**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.*

The department has made an adequate analysis of enrollment trends. Course level SLOs have been developed; additional work is needed to develop program levels SLOs and begin assessments of the SLOs. Title 5 course outlines are current. Course scheduling has been analyzed and may require additional analysis in order to determine the most effective scheduling.

**V. Departmental Engagement**

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

The department is represented by faculty on all major committees including Academic Senate, Curriculum, Department Chairs Council, and Accreditation.

**VI. Professional Development**

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

The department listed Conference attendance/APA, however, no detailed list of professional activities were listed such those provided for Flex activities.

## **VII. Support and Activities**

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

The department indicated that bathroom facilities are unclean. Faculty make informal recommendations to students as to which courses to take. The recent assignment of an IDWG Counselor may improve counseling for students in this department.

## **VIII. Resources: Personnel, Equipment and Facilities**

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

The department does not mention needing additional tutoring such as tutoring provided by Supplemental Instruction (SI) nor is the need for assistance in writing mentioned. The department does utilize Learning Skills and accommodations for disabilities (OSS).

## **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.*

The department has established goals to vary course length and to offer courses at outreach locations.

New goals include offering additional short-term courses, assessment of Philosophy 1, and to participate in the outreach program.

These goals are aligned with the Educational Master Plan and the College Strategic Plan.

## **X. Final Summary by Discipline**

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

The department faculty members recognizes that students will continue to arrive in their classes underprepared and utilize the Learning Skills program. Preparing and measuring SLOs will also address this issue. Additionally the department may work with other departments to establish learning communities, utilize the Writing Center, establish prerequisites, and participate in Student Success programs being developed on campus.

## **XI. Department Strengths and Weaknesses**

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

The department has a strong and dedicated faculty who work closely as a team to offer the best program possible. The department indicates that additional efforts will be made to improve learning using technology.

## **XII. Recommendations/Commendations**

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

Commendations:

1. Good student retention (85%)
2. Good student success rate (60%)
3. Effective uses of college resources
4. Good progress in completing course SLOs and beginning SLO assessment.

Recommendations:

1. Consider working with other department to establish and participate in learning communities;
2. Refer students needing writing assistance to the Writing Center;
3. Request additional SI's for students who need tutoring;
4. Explore possibility of including basic skills methodology in courses;
5. Consider utilizing additional technology in the classroom including posting lectures (Podcasting) to assist student who may need to hear the lectures repeated.
6. Complete Title 5 updates and SLO assessments.