

Los Angeles City College
Comprehensive Program Review 2008

Theater Arts Department

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 statement is not concise. As presented, it is a description of Theater Department activities as opposed to the department's purpose in terms of educating students. The mission should address the following concepts: to fulfill the requirements of the AA degree, prepare students for transfer and to assist in their personal development in regards to acting careers for Theater Academy graduates. Currently, the department does not directly address the college mission.

II. Department Overview

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

No issues have been identified. This section is just repeating enrollment data.

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 section is confusing and unclear. The data analysis does not contain complete thoughts, but is a series of unconnected phrases.

There are several extraneous occupations listed including, Musicians and Singers, Communications Teachers and Radio/TV Broadcasters. These occupations are not taught within the Theater program.

The data should be streamlined and analyzed.

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.

Title V should be changed to the Arabic numeral "5," which is the correct designation for all matters 'Title 5.' The department has not assessed student learning outcomes. They have identified SLOs and the document should be changed to reflect the proper status. The table erroneously indicates that SLO assessment is complete. Identification of SLOs is not assessment.

In the Narrative box, there is an indication that TA 205, 243 and 302 will not need updating until 2009-2010. 243 and 302 should have comments in the table indicating that they were updated. According to the table Theater 270, Beginning Acting, was last updated in February. It should have been updated by the December 2008 curriculum meeting.

Overall, the Theater Department should be commended for having updated a majority of their courses and having them be in compliance.

V. Departmental Engagement

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

The department has several faculty members who actively participate on campus committees and in interdepartmental collaborations. The rest of the members need to participate in the campus community.

VI. Professional Development

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

The department is to be praised for the quality of its professional development on the part of its fulltime and adjunct faculty.

VII. Support and Activities

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

The department indicates the need for secretarial assistance to aid the chair in day-to-day activities.

VIII. Resources: Personnel, Equipment and Facilities

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

The department has provided a full description of resource needs. In the Scene Shop area, there is a need to upgrade technology with the addition of a CAD lab. There is also a need to re-wire the aging system throughout the Theater building. The Theater Department should explore the possibility of partnering with Architecture, which also uses CAD technology.

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 indicates that rising materials costs may affect the budget required for Theater productions each year. The department also indicates the possible need for a travel budget for touring productions. The department basically indicates a need for more money in every facet of the operation.

The department needs to align their funding requests with the goals and action plans of either the department or the campus.

X. Final Summary by Discipline

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

The areas of major concern need to be aligned with goals and action plans.

XI. Department Strengths and Weaknesses

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

The quality of the faculty is the department's greatest strength.

One of the major weaknesses that was identified is the lack of secretarial services. However, this issue is not a true departmental weakness because it is outside of the department's control.

XII. Recommendations/Commendations

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

The department is to be commended for:

1. the high quality of the faculty and the department's quality productions;
2. the quality of the faculty's professional development;
3. their recent accolades from their performances at the Kennedy Center Regional Competition;

It is recommended that the department:

1. correct minor errors, particularly in the Curriculum section with regards to Title 5 terminology and SLO assessment;
2. encourage more departmental engagement