

Los Angeles City College
Comprehensive Program Review 2008

Theater Arts Department

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 department's mission is thorough, specific, and in tandem with the college's mission of providing both career/technical education and general-education/transfer program of study

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 department has provided a clear analysis of the enrollment trends that have occurred over the period in review; however, possible causes for this decline would be useful in identifying possible strategies that might assist the department in developing goals and objectives to reverse this trend

The department has included an outstanding analysis of enrollment by time of day and changes that have generated increased enrollment during particular semesters; additionally, its analysis of data had effects of class cancellation and limited course offerings during the summer and winter sessions can also be useful in future course planning.

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 Theatre Academy is clearly an exemplary career/technical education program as evidenced by its numerous awards and national recognition; a larger percentage of the Academy's students are from out-of-state, which further supports the Academy's reputation for excellence in theatre and technical training.

The faculty of the department are to be commended for their dedication and commitment to student evaluation methods to ensure student success and retention; particularly outstanding is the department's 89% retention rate.

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 clearly evaluated and reviewed the data affecting its enrollment trends and course offerings--day/evening/winter/summer--, and it has successfully implemented appropriate changes in planning and semester course offerings in an effort to address these issues

V. Departmental Engagement

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

Faculty of the department are fully engaged in a wide range of campus activities that include a variety of committees. The on-going campus committee participation includes the Staff Development Committee, Academic Senate, the Curriculum Committee, the AFT Committee, the Campus Beautification Committee, the Website Development Committee, the Chairs' Caucus, and the Chairs' Council. Additionally, members of the department have actively participated in the planning of guest lecturers, special cultural events, and the semi-annual Women's P.E. Dance demonstration.

The department has been involved in numerous collaborations with a variety of departments, namely the English Department, Cinema Department, the Music Department, the Nursing Department, and the Women's P.E. Department.

Theatre faculty should be commended on their active campus engagement

VI. Professional Development

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

Members of the department have extensively engaged in a wide variety of professional development activities that enhance their ability to provide state-of-the-art theater training and technical training to their students.

VII. Support and Activities

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

The department has clearly articulated its need for secretarial and instructional support and the impact it has on the recruitment efforts of the department as well as the department's operation and theatre maintenance.

VIII. Resources: Personnel, Equipment and Facilities

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

Although its faculty are sufficient for its program offerings and future planning, the department has extensive equipment and facilities needs.

An extensive list identifying and describing its equipment needs for many of its specialized disciplines as well as the theater's neglected maintenance needs has been provided. However, most notably, a computer lab equipped with specialized software is needed for its costuming discipline, and without such a lab, students are not receiving adequate training for the minimum qualifications needed in this field

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 Theatre Department has done an excellent job describing its various needs--human resources, equipment, rentals, maintenance, etc.--, and its planning goals clearly support the department's findings. However, more specificity is needed in its new planning goals. For example, goal #1 (Recruiting for Academy of the Future) should more clearly identify each action plan associated with the goal. (1) Renovating the theater (2) Develop a recruitment tool, (3) Creating/development internet courses, (4) Initiating recruitment activities, etc., By providing more detailed action plans with their individual associated costs, the department would be more likely to receive funding to begin each particular project, rather than the total cost of (\$455,000)

X. Final Summary by Discipline

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

The Theatre Department has clearly identified its areas of strength--staff development, FTES, FTEF, etc., and its areas of concern--student learning outcomes, curriculum, equipment, and physical facilities.

XI. Department Strengths and Weaknesses

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

The department has identified several notable strengths and weakness that directly impact the department's ability to provide a quality instructional program

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 in the areas identified as follows:

- (1) the level of participation of its faculty members on various campuswide committees
- (2) the extent of professional development activities of its faculty members
- (3) the many collaborative projects with various academic and career/technical education departments
- (4) its national recognition

The EPC Evaluation Committee recommends the following:

- (1) That the depart continue to pursue SLO assessment
- (2) That the department continues to encourage more widespread faculty engagement
- (3) That the department revises its goals and action plans to more closely define specific activities