Assessment Report

Yuba Community College District

YC - Theater Arts Program Recommendations

Year of Review: 2013-2014

Type of Review: Self-Study (4-year review)

Executive Summary (Include a list of team members): With the retirement of Professor Wheeler in spring 2010, the program is still without a full-time, tenure-track faculty member. For the past year, adjunct professor, Gina Alvarado, hired in fall 2011, has provided much-needed teaching and administrative support for Theatre Arts. The program, in conjunction with the Music Department, successfully produced a musical in Spring 2012, The Little Prince, which was well-received by the college and community. Budget permitting, the Theatre Arts Department would like to produce musicals more frequently than in the past; this should help to increase the program's exposure in the community and provide richer learning opportunities for students. In lieu of a musical, producing a well-known play in the spring may accomplish similar goals. In spring 2013, the department produced Death of a Salesman, which was nominated to American College Theatre Council[?]. With the departure of adjunct professor Alvarado in spring 2012, a new adjunct instructor, Dr. Geoffrey Wander, was hired for fall 2012. Dr. Wander directed Shakespeare's Twelfth Night in Fall 2012 and Taming of the Shrew in Fall 2013. The Department will produce Harvey for Spring 2014. The Department will also assist the Music Department's production of the opera, Dido and Aeneas in the Spring 2014 as well.

Program Description : A1. Do students have access to curriculum-specific and/or program-specific support services? If so, describe this service(s). If not, explain why.

For THART29, the Theatre Arts Technician assists with the production in assisting students with scenery, props, lighting, sound and stage management. Without the full-time faculty, adjunct faculty are not always readily available outside of the class unless specifically asked by the students.

A2. If services are available, how do they demonstrate an increase in student success?

With the production, student actors can learn the overall aspects of preparing for theatrical performances, and during the actual performances, can concentrate on their assigned tasks. With coaching, students fulfill many roles in the production, such as Stage Manager, Prop Manager, Lightboard Operator, etc.

B3. How is current and previous program review data used to refine and improve program or department practices?
[Paste from Music 1st paragraph] Without the full-time faculty, it has been difficult to review, plan or assess the department’s practices beyond the limited basics.

Curriculum & SLO Assessment Summary : What has your program or department done to improve completion of degrees, certificates, or transfers? What are your future plans?
We have hired a total of 4 adjunct instructors since the retirement of David Wheeler without long-term commitment. We are in the process of reviewing course outlines for all of the theatre offerings, redesign courses that used to be repeatable, and create the ADT degree in Theatre. Joseph Stottmann is an alumnus of this program, who works as the Theatre Technician. He has the qualifications to teach the CTE stagecraft courses, and will, with the assistance of faculty in Fine Arts Division, coordinate with other adjunct faculty to provide continuity and improvement in these regards.

Do you have any courses, certificates, or degrees that should be in-activated or expanded? If yes, please identify and justify your recommendations with data.
Without the full-time faculty, change of state policy regarding repeatability of courses was not addressed last year. This has great negative impact on our students. We will be creating levels for various courses we offer to ensure that the students become well-prepared through taking the full curriculum to be able to succeed in auditioning to transfer.

We are also in the process to revise our curriculum and course outlines to align with the C-ID requirements for ADT degree in Theatre.

We need to coordinate better with our English Department regarding the courses in Film (THART32, 33 and 34).

Do all of your courses have current CORs? If not, what steps are you taking to ensure compliance?
Yes.

If applicable, how are teaching methodologies in your program or department assessed?
These are assessed by the standard peer evaluation process.

If applicable, how are the results of the assessment used to support, improve, and/or expand your current teaching methodologies?
The evaluating faculty and the dean discuss the results of the assessment with the adjunct faculty, and improvement is expected on the consequent evaluations.

If your program or department uses a DE modality to support instruction, how are you evaluating the effectiveness of that instruction?
N/A

If your department offers DE courses, what support services does it provide for DE students? What can be done to improve support services for these students?
N/A

How is your program or department applying sound principles of learning and teaching theory to its curriculum?
Without any full-time faculty, this question is difficult to evaluate.

Which CSLOs (course student learning outcomes) and PLOs (Program learning outcomes) were assessed within the last year?
THART 10, 11A, 11B, 29.

For each of the above, how did the assessment data influence program, department and/or course improvement?
Without any full-time faculty or consistent adjunct faculty, it has been difficult to reflect assessment data for course improvement.

The dean, staff, instructors and professors in Music department have been working together to improve quality of instruction, find and retain adjunct instructors, and serve our students the best we can.

Industry Trends and Program Data Analysis :

How do program or department goals align with the education, diversity, demographic, and workforce needs of local communities?

Diverse populations of Yuba-Sutter communities are keenly interested in theatre and live entertainment. Our students include people of different age groups, many veterans, single parents, high school students, semi-professional actors, retirees, as well as traditional students. There are a number of theatrical companies in this area, including Sacramento, Chico and Grass Valley. Students who successfully complete our program can be prepared to audition for various roles, obtain work in the technical and operational side of the theatre companies. They may also be employed at various performance venues, not necessarily related to playhouse. We had a strong tradition of students transferring to noted universities with excellent theatre arts programs. The number has decreased with the loss of the full-time faculty, due to courses not being able to be offered and mentoring faculty absence.

According to the Arts and the Economic Prosperity IV study conducted in 2010, “the nonprofit arts and culture are a $112 million industry in Sacramento County—
one that supports 4,441 full-time equivalent jobs and generates $13.2 million in local and state government revenue. Nonprofit arts and culture organizations, which spend $82.1 million annually, leverage a remarkable $29.9 million in additional spending by arts and culture audiences—spending that pumps vital revenue into local restaurants, hotels, retail stores, parking garages, and other businesses. By demonstrating that investing in the arts and culture yields economic benefits, Arts & Economic Prosperity IV lays to rest a common misconception: that communities support the arts and culture at the expense of local economic development. In fact, they are investing in an industry that supports jobs, generates government revenue, and is a cornerstone of tourism.” (Arts and the Economic Prosperity IV in Sacramento County, p. 11. See attached documentation for the detailed data.)

One of the findings in the above study is the fact that the presence of arts and culture makes the city much more attractive. If they are lacking, the residents are likely to go out of the city to attend arts and culture events and spend their money elsewhere. In order to revitalize Yuba City and Marysville from the city with the third highest unemployment ranking to a place that attract more businesses and companies with creative solutions, arts and culture are essential for the future of the region.

How is your program or department direction driven by empirical data?

It has been difficult to set department direction without the full-time faculty. The research data findings that may be on Tracdat has only been accessible to changing adjunct faculty from semester to semester.

Future Goals and Program Direction:

Major program goals and recommendations include hiring a full-time, tenure-track faculty member who will bring much-needed vision and direction to the Theatre Arts Program. One of the Division Dean's goals for the program is to make it more visible in the community and to make the Yuba College Theatre a premier destination in the region for Fine Arts performances. Other goals include the painting/upgrading of the Theatre Arts building's exterior, continuing the development and assessment of program SLOs, continuing to request the hiring of a full-time faculty member to lead the Theatre Arts Program, and attemtping to offer more musical productions that will increase the exposure of the Program to the local community and give students increased learning opportunties to perform musical theatre.

Course Content and Statistical Analysis:	TMC
Are you ready to submit your final program review?:	Yes

Goal	Recommendations	Plan of Action & Budgetary Impact / Tasks	Status	Feedback & Follow-Up
YC Goal 5 - 1. Hiring a full-time, tenure-track instructor who can provide leadership and administrative support to the Theatre Arts Program and increase its visibility in the community.				

Goal	Recommendations	Plan of Action & Budgetary Impact / Tasks	Status	Feedback & Follow-Up
2. Repainting or refurbishing the exterior of the Theatre Arts building so that it is consistent with the upgrades made to the lobby and audience seating areas.				

Goal	Recommendations	Plan of Action & Budgetary Impact / Tasks	Status	Feedback & Follow-Up
3. Continuing to produce musical theatre on a regular basis.				

Goal	Recommendations	Plan of Action & Budgetary Impact / Tasks	Status	Feedback & Follow-Up
4. Securing regular additional funding for safety inspections and procedures.				

Goal	Recommendations	Plan of Action & Budgetary Impact / Tasks	Status	Feedback & Follow-Up
YC Goal 1 - Complete full cycle of SLO implementation and assessment.				

Goal	Recommendations	Plan of Action & Budgetary Impact / Tasks	Status	Feedback & Follow-Up
YC Goal 5 - Complete alignment of curriculum with C-ID and ADT requirements.				

Goal	Recommendations	Plan of Action & Budgetary Impact / Tasks	Status	Feedback & Follow-Up
YC Goal 6 - Complete the SLO assessment and program improvement cycle.				

Goal	Recommendations	Plan of Action & Budgetary Impact / Tasks	Status	Feedback & Follow-Up
YC Goal 2 - Collaborate with other departments to share resources, such as equipment and space.				

Goal	Recommendations	Plan of Action & Budgetary Impact / Tasks	Status	Feedback & Follow-Up
YC Goal 3 - Improve our energy consumption and increase our efficiencies. We are researching new LED based fixtures for both the stage and public areas. We have been replacing outdated lighting equipment with new energy efficient lighting and many of the building's rooms are either on a timer or have occupancy sensors to further save on energy. The workshop routinely recycles set materials and maintains a large stock of standard set pieces. Many flats and platforms are over 10 years old but remain usable.				

Goal	Recommendations	Plan of Action & Budgetary Impact / Tasks	Status	Feedback & Follow-Up
YC Goal 7 - Support many other departments for their event needs. The theatre building is used by many departments (Public Safety, Nursing, EOPS/CARE, Music, Public Events, ECE, TriO, Counseling) year-round for various concerts, recitals, ceremonies, workshops and conferences. Additionally Theatre staff often collaborate and provide support to other departments outside of the theatre, e.g. Commencement, off-site concerts, and				

Goal	Recommendations	Plan of Action & Budgetary Impact / Tasks	Status	Feedback & Follow-Up
foundation events (Goal 7).				

Goal	Recommendations	Plan of Action & Budgetary Impact / Tasks	Status	Feedback & Follow-Up
YC Goal 9 - Collaborate with several performing arts groups in the community such as The Acting Company, Jacque's Dance Expressions. The Theatre Department in conjunction with Public Events and Music implemented the Event Series this year. This series has provided students, staff and the community several top-notch and popular performances such as The Kalama Brothers and Because – A Beatles Tribute. These professional level performances not only enrich our community but provide key learning experiences for theatre students interested in the career technical fields of theatre, e.g. Stage Management, Sound Engineering, Lighting Design, House Management.				