Assessment: Assessment Unit Planning

Program Review 2014-15

YC - Economics Program Review

Year Under Review : 2014-15
Type of Review:
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.
Students are able to receive tutoring assistance in both Microeconomics and Macroeconomics at both Yuba College – Marysville Campus and Yuba College – Clear Lake Campus.

A2. If services are available, how do they demonstrate an increase in student success?
Students at the Clear Lake Campus have specifically informed the instructional staff that the tutoring that they received in the Learning Resourse Center was key to their success in passing both Macroeconomics and Microeconomics.

B3. How is current and previous program review data used to refine and improve program or department practices?
Program Review data from past reviews has not been utilized in improving program practices. For the past several reviews, it has been noted that a full-time instructor located at the Marysville Campus is necessary. To date, a full-time instructor in Economics has not been hired.

Executive Summary (Include a list of team members): Dean, Adjunct Faculty; Given the lack of a full-time instructor, there is currently no standard Program Review process. This program review is being completed to meet faculty staffing request prerequisite requirements.
01IP. Department Goals (Click '?' for Prompt): The Economics Program can distinctly state that it is aligned with several of the Yuba College goals. The Economics Program helps “students complete their educational goals in a timely manner” by ensuring that students are able to take an economics class in both a live setting and in the online environment.
02IP. Access to Support Services (Click '?' for Prompt): -Office Hours, -DSPS
03IP. Follow up to question 02IP (Click '?' for Prompt): Students are able to receive tutoring assistance in both Microeconomics and Macroeconomics at both Yuba College – Marysville Campus and Yuba College – Clear Lake Campus.
04IP. Degrees/Certificates (Click '?' for Prompt): Currently, there is no stand-alone Economics degree program. The program seeks to develop a C-ID transfer degree but that goal has not been met because there is no full-time faculty member devoted entirely to the Economics program.
05IP. Improve Completion (Click '?' for Prompt): At the state level, a C-ID approved transfer degree in Economics is almost completed. Because there has been no full-time faculty, however, the approval process has continued for 3 years without completion. Upon approval at the state level, a transfer degree in Economics can be put in place at Yuba College. This degree may encourage students to transfer to 4-year institutions.
06IP. Course Outlines (Click '?' for Prompt): Course outlines of records for both Econ 1A and Econ 1B are current.
07IP. Collaboration (Click '?' for Prompt): The economics program works with Disabled Student Programs and Services. Additionally, the economics program has tutoring services available for its students.
08IP. Catalog Currency (Click '?' for Prompt): Economics 1A and Economics 1B are both current in the most recent course catalog. A C-ID transfer approved degree is Economics is in development but has not been completed due to the lack of a full-time faculty member in the program. The courses were recently updated in order to align with C-ID standards. Economics 1A and Economics 1B were both approved were granted State Approval on April 15, 2015.
09IP. For CTE Programs Only (Click '?' for Prompt): Not applicable.
10IP. DE Students (Click '?' for Prompt): The Marysville campus is taught entirely by Adjunct Instructors and is supplemented by successful online courses taught by the full-time faculty member located at the Clear Lake Campus. When Clear Lake realigns with Woodland College, this faculty member will no longer be available to work within the Economics program. In the 2014-15 academic year, five sections of Economics 1A and one section of Economics 1B were taught. The instructor communicates with students by email, chat rooms, discussion boards, and office hours.

11IP.Disproportionate Impact(Click '?' for Prompt): There are no disproportionate impacts in the Economics program. In fact, a review of the 2014-15 data reveals that, on average, persons from all measured groups (age, gender, race, and ethnicity) are more successful in the Economics degree than at the college in general.

12IP. Mapping (Click '?' for Prompt): No

13IP. Course SLOs (Click '?' for Prompt): Course SLOs were updated and reviewed when the However, because there is no full-time faculty to direct the program, the application of those Course SLOs are not sufficient and have not provided sufficient data for an appropriate analysis. The most recent Course SLOs that have been inputted in TracDat are for the 2010-11 school year. Coincidentally, this is near the same time that the Economics program staffed a full-time instructor. As such, specific data cannot be analyzed to improve the program.

14IP. Program SLOs (Click '?' for Prompt): Program SLOs were updated during the 2013-14 academic year.

15IP. Professional Development (Click '?' for Prompt): The adjunct faculty that staff this program have not reported any professional development. There is no coordination or communication between adjunct faculty in the Economics program because there is no full-time instructor devoted to engaging and facilitating adjunct faculty communication. As such, any individual professional development by one adjunct faculty has never been shared in the department.

16IP. Reflection (Click '?' for Prompt): The Economics program will continue to stagnate until a full-time instructor is hired to lead the program. After completing this program review, it is apparent that many program responsibilities have been unmet. Specifically, Program Review, Faculty Request, SLOs, and other administrative requirements will only be met by ad hoc reporting by partially informed adjunct faculty. Given the importance of the offered Economics courses as degree requirements for other disciplines, it is incumbent upon the administration to hire a full-time faculty member so that the Economics program can address its current deficiencies and improve the program for the benefit of future students.

Are you ready to submit your final program review?: Yes

Program Recommendation: Curriculum/SLO

Continue working on SLOs for Macroeconomics and Microeconomics. SLOs have been assessed and now must be refined to further the goals of the program.

Recommendation Priority: 2. Medium Priority
Year(s) Requested: 2012-2013
Request Date: 10/08/2012

Plan of Action

Curriculum/SLO - Communication amongst adjunct faculty members to ensure consistent and best data collection. (Active)
Budgetary Impact: None
Timeline/Responsible Party: Spring 2012 - Fulltime Faculty

Staffing - Faculty - Does this program or department have adequate full-time faculty to support a high quality program? Please explain.

This district does not have a full-time faculty member completely devoted to Economics. Woodland Community College has one full-time faculty member that teaches one economics class. The Clear Lake Campus has one full-time faculty member who teaches 2 courses per semester. The rest of the Economics curriculum is delivered by Adjunct Faculty. The Economics program will never truly thrive without a full-time faculty member that is entirely devoted to the program.

(Active)
Budgetary Impact: significant
Timeline/Responsible Party: immediately
Perkins Eligible: No
DE Related: No
HSI Related: No

Status

Reporting Year: 2014-2015 11/30/2015

Recommendation Progress: Recommendation Needs Improvement/Attention
unchanged

Equipment - To what degree does your program or department have adequate and appropriate equipment (other equipment, not computers or IT related).

The equipment that is used for the Economics Program at the Clear Lake Campus is archaic. Old-fashioned transparency machines are used to display graphs and mathematical applications. Efficiency would be improved if classrooms were equipped with Elmos and/or electronic whiteboards.
(Active)

Budgetary Impact: $300 per machine
Timeline/Responsible Party: Fall 2014
Perkins Eligible: No
DE Related: No
HSI Related: No

Status

Reporting Year: 2014-2015 11/30/2015
Recommendation Progress: Recommendation Needs Improvement/Attention
Department may consider using some of its budget to purchase this equipment.

Curriculum/SLO - SLOs for Econ 1A and 1B are complete and will be assessed in 2015-2016. (Active)
Timeline/Responsible Party: Individual instructors (no full-time faculty in Economics)
Perkins Eligible: No
DE Related: Yes
HSI Related: No
YC - Location: Yuba College - All

Program Recommendation: Staffing

Hire an additional full-time economics instructor.

Recommendation Priority: 3. High Priority
Year(s) Requested: 2012-2013
Request Date: 10/08/2012

Plan of Action

Staffing - Faculty - Forward recommendations to the college's faculty staffing committee to initiate hiring process. (Active)
Budgetary Impact: Yes
Timeline/Responsible Party: 2012 - Division Dean

Status

Reporting Year: 2014-2015 11/30/2015
Recommendation Progress: Recommendation Addressed/Satisfactory Progress
Done.

Staffing - Faculty - A faculty staffing request was submitted this year (2015-2016) and will continue to be submitted until a tenure-track position is granted to Economics. (Active)
Budgetary Impact: The cost of 1 FTEF
Timeline/Responsible Party: Adjunct faculty
Perkins Eligible: No
DE Related: No

YC - Economics Program Review

HSI Related: Yes
YC - Location: Yuba College - All

Status

Reporting Year: 2014-2015 11/30/2015
Recommendation Progress: Recommendation Addressed/Satisfactory Progress
Faculty staffing request was submitted for 2016-2017

Program Recommendation: Equipment/Technology

Economics is most successfully taught with a modern overhead projection unit. There should be at least one fully-functioning projection unit in each classroom where economics is taught.

Recommendation Priority: 2. Medium Priority
Year(s) Requested: 2012-2013
Request Date: 01/17/2012

Plan of Action

Equipment - Research available products and put forth budget requests for these items to college administrators (Active)
Budgetary Impact: Yes. In the thousands of dollars
Timeline/Responsible Party: 2012-Fulltime Faculty

Status

Reporting Year: 2014-2015 11/30/2015
Recommendation Progress: Recommendation Needs Improvement/Attention
In progress.

Equipment - Dean will check to see if Economics has its own budget. If the object code for equipment and supplies has been funded, equipment, such as overhead projectors, can be purchased with department funds. (Active)
Budgetary Impact: $300/projector
Timeline/Responsible Party: Adjunct faculty and Dean of Arts, Humanities, and Education
Perkins Eligible: No
DE Related: No
HSI Related: No
YC - Location: Yuba College - All

Status

Reporting Year: 2014-2015 11/30/2015
Recommendation Progress: Recommendation Achieved/Completed
In progress. As of 11/30/15, Department has $662.00 in its budget for equipment and supplies.

Program Recommendation: Facilities

Secure addtional white boards in classrooms where economics is taught. Two to three dry erase boards are recommended for each classroom where economics is taught.

Recommendation Priority: 2. Medium Priority
Year(s) Requested: 2012-2013
Request Date: 10/08/2012

Plan of Action

Facilities - Research available products and put forth budget requests for these items to college administrators (Active)
Budgetary Impact: Yes. Several hundred dollars
Timeline/Responsible Party: Spring 2012 - Fulltime Faculty

YC - Economics Program Review

Status

Reporting Year: 2014-2015 11/30/2015
Recommendation Progress: Recommendation Needs Improvement/Attention
In progress.

Facilities - See if college funds are available for purchase of whiteboards; otherwise, check to see if Economics Department has funds for equipment that can be used for this purchase. (Active)

Budgetary Impact: It depends on whether funding is from the college or the department.
Timeline/Responsible Party: Adjunct faculty and Dean
Perkins Eligible: No
DE Related: No
HSI Related: No
YC - Location: Yuba College - All

Status

Reporting Year: 2014-2015 11/30/2015
Recommendation Progress: Recommendation Needs Improvement/Attention
Econ Department has $662 in its budget for purchase of whiteboards if college does not fund.