

Administrative Response to Program Review Aviation Maintenance Technology Program February 2016

On February 26, 2016, the Aviation Maintenance Technology SAC presented their Program Review findings to an audience of PCC administrators and others with an interest in the discipline. Both the written report and the presentation were informative and thought provoking. Your presentation provided an opportunity for engagement with those in attendance through an informative and interactive dialogue.

This Administrative Response will: A) note particular highlights of the Aviation Maintenance Technology Program and Program Review; B) provide observations and recommendations; and C) provide the administrative response to the SAC recommendations.

Noteworthy Efforts or Achievements

- Curriculum changes in AMT 108 General Practicum class now provides an opportunity for students to take a practice exam (FAA written, oral and practical certification) of the General Subject Area content.
- 100% of the graduates that choose to complete the FAA certification testing are issued the ratings for which they applied.
- Participation in high school visitation days and other outreach opportunities to make connections with high schools and students.
- Multiple career options for graduates including in companies such as Boeing and Intel.
- Student feedback incorporated into the program review and the presentation.
- Established relationship with Boeing for a 5-week competitive paid internship.

Observations and Recommendations

Given the rich scope of assessment that occurs routinely in the program, it is disappointing that the AMT SAC has found it so difficult to engage with the College requirements for documenting and reporting assessment. This is clearly expected by our accrediting body.

Specific observations from the Program Review relating to assessment:

- While course grades do capture the summation of a student's learning in a given course, they do not help to identify any specific skills or outcomes, in which the program might improve its practices to enhance student learning. Similarly, FAA testing, whether from official results or from the practice exam, would be more valuable to the program if results could be ascribed to specific skills or outcomes.

- The examples offered for changes made based on outcome assessment appear to be driven by fundamental needs: appropriate training equipment oversight of practice exams, rather than the result of assessment of student learning.
- The example assessment project focused on the assessment design, with only passing reference to the results, but evidence suggesting that of students not achieving all expected outcomes (concepts) is exactly the purpose of assessment for improvement. (NWCCU Standard 4.B.2)
- The SAC notes that the assessment process detracts from more urgent efforts to update courses, but it would be useful for course updates to be informed by assessment of student learning.

Recommendation: The DOIs request that the AMT SAC develop a systematic approach for collecting and analyzing assessment relating to expressed student outcomes. An updated report on Section 2 of the Program Review, with an accompanying multi-year plan for assessment of program outcomes, is expected by January 2018. Please work with your Assessment Coach, and with the Dean of Academic Affairs

Administrative Response to Aviation Maintenance Technology Recommendations

A. What is the SAC planning to do to improve teaching and learning, student success, and degree or certificate completion?

1. Instructional Equipment Upgrade and Improvement. *We are aware of and support the need for the regular replacement of equipment. Please work with your division dean and consider applying for funding through the Strategic Initiative Process that should be available in late spring term. In addition, please continue working with the PCC Foundation in their efforts to develop funding for major capital equipment.*
2. Standardization of Curriculum Archiving. *We support continuous improvement in curriculum.*
3. Increased Professional Development in Newer Technologies. *We support participation in professional development in new technologies for all faculty. We understand that the campus has identified the need for another full-time Aviation Maintenance Technology faculty member on the district priority list. Please continue to work with your division dean to advocate for this position.*
4. Rigorous Approach to Periodic Review of the 24 Courses in the AMT Curriculum. *We recognize the loss to your program of both funding and a full-time position that occurred more than ten years ago and the impact that this has had on your review of your curriculum. Please continue to work with your division dean to advocate for a full-time faculty position.*

B. What support do you need from the administration in order to carry out your planned improvements?

1. Instructional Equipment Upgrade and Improvement. *Please see response above in A1.*
2. Fifth Full-Time Faculty Member. *We acknowledge the request to hire a fifth full-time AMT faculty member. It is our understanding that this request has been identified and placed on the position priority list at the district level. Please continue to work with your division dean to advocate for this position.*
3. Approval of Aircraft Electronic Technician (AET) Less Than One-Year Certificate. *Please work with your division dean to complete the Phase Two proposal and submit it to the Rock Creek Dean of Instruction. Once that has been completed, the process is for the Rock Creek Dean of Instruction to submit it to the Deans of Instruction, Dean of Academic Affairs, Rock Creek Campus President and Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs for review and approval.*
4. Increased Funding for Release Time for Faculty to Address Imposed Curriculum Changes as a Result of FAA Regulation Changes. *We acknowledge the need to ensure curriculum changes are made in order to comply with FAA regulation changes. We recommend you work with your division dean to secure the needed funds once the changes are officially announced.*
5. The Increase of One Additional Instructional Technician 4. *We acknowledge the importance of having Instructional Technicians who can adequately support teaching and learning. Please work with your division dean to ensure this position is placed on the campus priority list.*
6. Capital Repairs for the Hangar Facilities that is Deferred Maintenance: Repair of roof and siding leaks into the labs and classrooms; and Re-grading, adequate underlayment and resurfacing of deteriorated of tarmac. *Please work with your division dean to ensure these needs have been identified in the Facilities Master Plan.*
7. Capital Improvements for the Hangar Facilities: Water chiller/filter station in the hangar complex; Improved faculty office workstation furniture; Mezzanine floor for the Tool room; and Added exterior covered storage and operational areas. *Please work with your division dean to ensure the needs for a mezzanine floor for the tool room and exterior covered storage and operational areas are placed on the Facilities Master Plan. Depending upon the complexity of the water chiller/filter station, funds may be secured through ASPCC for this type of upgrade. Regarding the need for improved faculty office workstation furniture, please work with the Bond furniture individual to obtain a quote on new furniture.*

This is a campus expenditure and one that can be requested through the campus Dean of Instruction.

8. Develop an Informed Plan to More Equitably Address the District Diversity and Inclusion Concerns of the Technical Industries Workforce Cultures From Which We Draw New Faculty Members. *Please work with your division dean and the Manager of Employment Services regarding this request.*
9. Develop into the Organizational Structure of PCC, Managerial or Director Positions for Clustered Programs, with a Focus on the Programs that are accredited by Outside Agencies, Beyond the College District. *We acknowledge this request and understand that your division dean has placed this position on the campus priority list.*
10. Develop a Greater District Recognition and Structural Support of the Uniqueness of the Career and Technical Education Programs in Contrast to Lower Division Transfer Programs. *We recognize the uniqueness of the Career and Technical Education Programs. Please work with your division dean to identify ways that CTE programs can be supported and recognized.*
11. Re-energize or Re-establish the Vocational/Career Technical Education Instructor Training Program that Provides Initial and Ongoing Training for CTE Faculty. *Thank you for providing additional information about this program from the 1987 – 1989 and 1990 – 1991 catalog. I recommend that this information be shared with the CTE Leaders group to gauge the interest in resurrecting this type of program.*

Closing

In closing, we want to again thank the Aviation Maintenance Technology SAC for sharing the results of your program review with us. We enjoyed learning more about the discipline, your successes and plans for the future. We look forward to supporting your on-going work on continuous program improvement.

Administrative Response submitted by Cheryl L. Scott, on behalf of the Deans of Instruction and Dean of Academic Affairs.

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