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Program Review
Form for External Review Committee

Instructional

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Form ID

89

Division

Industrial and Transportation Technologies

Department

Manufacturing Technologies

Program

Welding Technology

Review Year

2007-2008

Member Names

Cara Crowley, Steven Beckham, Kim Davis, Sally Evans, Judy Johnson, Pam Pinner, Rao Prabhakar, James Rauscher, Sheree Talkington and Lynn Thornton

Division Overview

Program/Department Purpose

State the purpose of the program/department.
How is this purpose within the mission of

Amarillo College?

Train production welders for industry.

Program's purpose statement is within the institutional mission statement in that it addresses teaching, learning, and/or public service. The Amarillo College mission statement also addresses quality of life. The training provided in the Welding Technology program is the basis for professional employment, self-employment, and professional advancement.

**Does the answer include a purpose statement for the program/department?
Does the answer indicate how this program/department is within the mission of Amarillo College?**

Acceptable

When was the last time the program's/department's purpose statement was reviewed/revised by faculty and staff in the program/department?

Continued curriculum development and revision, along with new faculty and supplemental faculty orientation, keeps the program mission and objectives in the forefront. Review is continual. The statement is fundamental and has not

required recent revision.

Does the answer indicate the last time the program's/department's purpose statement was reviewed/revised by faculty and staff in the program/department? Does the answer indicate how this program/department is within the mission of Amarillo College? within the mission of Amarillo College?

Acceptable

If the program/department offers continuing education credits, how are these courses consistent with the mission of Amarillo College?

Continuing Education credits are offered in all subject areas and are taught as a component of every class. Cross-listing all classes allows the Amarillo College mission to be fulfilled for all segments of the service area population.

Does the program/department offer continuing education credits? Does the answer indicate how these courses are consistent with the mission of Amarillo College?

Acceptable

Does the program have admissions policies?

no

Where are the policies published?

Are all the locations where the policies are published included in the answer?

Acceptable

Explain how these policies are consistent with the mission of Amarillo College.

Does the explanation of how the policies are consistent with the mission of Amarillo College appear to be accurate?

Acceptable

Is the program/department accredited?

no

Which agencies or organizations accredit the department/program?

Are the complete names of the agencies or organizations which accredit the department/program cited?

Acceptable

How many years are in the accreditation cycle?

How many years are in the accreditation cycle?

Acceptable

When were the accreditations affirmed or granted?

When were the accreditations affirmed or granted?

Acceptable

What is the current status of the accreditation?

Are the current statuses of the accreditations identified (e.g. accredited, in process of renewal, in process of candidacy, other)?

Acceptable

If not required, is the program eligible for accreditation?

Acceptable

Has this program/department sought accreditation even though it is not required (e.g. yes; If no, explain)?

Acceptable

Is this program/discipline required to receive approval from an external agency or organization (other than the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board) in order to offer courses?

no

Identify the external approver(s) for the department/program.

IF the program/discipline is required to receive approval from an external agency or organization (other than the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board) in order to offer courses, was (were) the external approver(s) for the department/program identified?

Acceptable

What approval schedule is required by the external approver(s)?

Was the approval schedule required by the external approver(s) identified?

Acceptable

When did the program/department last receive approval?

When did the program/department last receive approval?

Acceptable

Is the reason why the program/department is required to receive this approval clear?

Acceptable

Improvements

Identify at least one example of an improvement/revision which resulted from the annual PET forms for the last five years

May 2005, the Welding program adopted the American Welding Society (A.W.S.) SENSE curriculum in order to comply with industry standards in training as directed in the PET form.

After reviewing at least one example of improvements/revisions that resulted from the annual PET forms for the last five years, determine the extent that this program/department has used the PET forms to make improvements/revisions. Does this meet the minimum expectations for using PET forms to make improvements/revisions to the program/department?

Acceptable

Identify at least one example of improvements/revisions which resulted from the last Program Review.

Curriculum and scheduling changes have corrected the problem of class availability each semester. The length of class periods has been changed to allow working students to better

participate in evening classes. A full time student can now complete the program in one year.

After reviewing at least one example of improvements/revisions that resulted from the last Program Review, determine the extent to which this program/department values the Program Review process to make improvements/revisions.

Acceptable

Identify all the delivery approaches used for courses within this program/department: (Select all that apply.)
traditional classroom,

After reviewing all delivery approaches for courses within this program/department, is this program positioned for growth? Does the committee have recommendations for delivery options which will provide additional growth?

Web

After reviewing at least one example of improvements/revisions that is a response to accomplish a strategy or tactical objective within the Strategic Plan 2010-2015, determine the extent to which this program/department has contributed to the implementation success of the Strategic

Plan? Does this department/program understand how it relates to the institution's future based on the Strategic Plan?

Acceptable

Identify at least one example of an improvement/revision that is a response to accomplish a strategy or tactical objective within the Strategic Plan 2010-2015.

A tactic used in the Welding program to accomplish the 2010 Strategic Plan is contract training through the Workforce Development Division which works with local industry to meet specific training needs and bring alternative sources of income.

After reviewing at least one example of improvements/revisions that is a response to accomplish a strategy or tactical objective within the Strategic Plan 2010-2015, determine the extent to which this program/department has contributed to the implementation success of the Strategic Plan? Does this department/program understand how it relates to the institution's future based on the Strategic Plan?

Acceptable

Answer would be more clear if the actual Strategic Plan goals were provided that this program was addressing

Does this Committee have recommendations as to how this program/department may contribute to the implementation of the Strategic Plan?

Provide names and titles of those who determined the process used to assess outcomes of the program and/or courses in the department.

Dr. Kim Hays, Chair, Manufacturing Technologies Department

Mr. Jay Anders, Faculty, Welding Technology

A.W.S. SENSE Curriculum

Has the program/department had a broad base of involvement from a majority of faculty and staff with the program/department regarding implementation of student learning outcomes of the program(s) (or department) and courses? What

recommendations does the committee have for increasing involvement?

Acceptable

Explain the primary reasons behind the competencies that were selected.

Competency outcomes are based on Industry Certifications, A.W.S. D1.1 requirements, advisory committee suggestions, field experience and continual contact with industry representatives.

Do the selected competencies appear to be valid?

Acceptable

Concern

The competencies selected were not provided; however, the reason for selecting the chosen competencies was provided and seems valid

Identify the primary reasons for the assessment tool(s) selected.

The Welding program assessment efforts are modeled after industry competency evaluations. The ability to read and follow procedures, calculate setups, and produce acceptable coupons are accepted standards.

Will the assessment tool(s) selected provide

valid and reliable results?

Acceptable

Evaluate the assessment approaches to date.

Current assessment approaches primarily deal with completed weld coupons. Little emphasis is given intermediate steps. Student numbers and location of various welding stations prevent the instructor from adequately monitoring the progress of each project.

Another area of concern is the academic performance of welding students. Coupon completion and limited testing doesn't adequately evaluate student potential.

Will the assessment approaches(s) selected provide valid and reliable results?

For student or program/course outcome assessments, review the program's/department's five-year graph(s) of quantitative results or provide a brief narrative summary of qualitative results.

Review the program's/department's five-year graph(s) of quantitative results for student or program/course outcome

assessments, or provide a brief narrative summary of qualitative results.

Unacceptable

Program did not respond to the question as directed

What changes have been made in the curricula of the program/department because of the analysis of these results?

The current curriculum is in its third year, which just now brings it under scrutiny.

Have any changes been made in the curricula because of the analysis of these results?

Unacceptable

Program did not respond to the question as directed

Review the five-year graph(s) of course completions for the program/department. Explain any increase or decrease that is more than a one-year anomaly.

There has been a slight drop in successful completer percentage. The Welding program has attracted a large number of undecided youth in recent years and there appears to be a belief

that if a student can't do anything else, he can weld. This has resulted in more students giving up.

Does the review of the five-year graph(s) of course completions demonstrate the use of analysis to implement a plan of action for retention? Is the analysis of any increase or decrease that is more than a one-year anomaly accurate?

Unacceptable

This program lacked the analysis to implement a plan of action for retention.

Provide the program's/department's plan of action for improving any identified problem or results from the implementation of the plan of action.

Testing standards are being raised for all technical programs which will divert some of the less prepared and less committed students. Tool and equipment lists are being increased which will require more commitment on the part of the student.

Will the plan of action likely improve the number of course completers?

Acceptable

Concern

The plan for raising testing standards will assist with diverting some student. But no plan is presented for those students that have passed the testing standards but still lack the ability to complete the course.

Does the program/department provide for alternative methods of awarding credit?
Credit by Exam Credit for Experience

Has the program/department provided for alternative methods of awarding credit? If not, which alternative methods would be recommended?

What approaches are used to assure outcomes are comparable to those expected of students who enrolled and completed the course?

Acceptable

For general education and/or core curriculum required by this program/department, identify the relevant competencies approved by the Academic Affairs Committee (see Catalog section entitled Degrees and Certificates: General Education Competencies).

Have all relevant competencies for general education and/or core curriculum been identified for this program/department? If

not, which are obviously a part of this program/department's general education competencies?

Unacceptable

Program did not respond to the question as directed

Explain how outcomes for the competencies have been assessed and achieved and provide links to the documentation.

Is the explanation of assessment approach(es) for general education competencies (outcomes) thorough? Is the analysis of the results accurate? Have links to documentation which verify the assessment results been included?

Unacceptable

Program did not respond to the question as directed

Outline a plan for correcting any weaknesses.

If assessment results and analysis are included, is there a plan for correcting any weaknesses included?

Unacceptable

Program did not respond to the question as

directed

Do students/graduates in this program/department have to be certified or licensed?

no

Review the results for certification/licensure results of the program/department and/or job placement for the past five years. Explain any increase or decrease that is more than one-year anomaly.

Provide a plan of action for the identified problem.

IF students/graduates in this program/department have to be certified or licensed, do the results over the past five-years indicate that certification/licensure have been equal to or greater than the average of the past five-years AND/OR equal to the statewide or national benchmark for this certification/licensure? IF NOT, does the analysis and plan of action appear that the program/department has thoroughly reviewed the problem?

Acceptable

Is the program's/department's plan of action for improving any identified problem or results likely to improve the

certification/licensure results? Did program/department explain any increase or decrease that is more than a one-year anomaly? Does the plan correct any weaknesses included? If not, what is missing?

Acceptable

IF the department or program offers one or more technical programs (Associate in Applied Science or Certificates), has the program/department included an explanation of the job placement success during the past five years AND are these results at least equal to the statewide annual benchmark (90%)?

Is the analysis of any increase or decrease that is more than a one-year anomaly accurate?

Accurate data is unavailable. The department has maintained a list of job openings for the last several years and normally has 40 to 50 employment opportunities which do not receive an application. Placement is fast if required.

Is the program's/department's plan of action for improving any identified problem or results likely to improve the job placement rate for graduates of the technical program(s)? If not, what is missing?

The current job market is built on the oil field demand which will not last. Curriculum emphasis is on the "Combo" welder which will remain more employable.

IF the department or program offers one or more technical programs (Associate in Applied Science or Certificates), has the program/department included an explanation of the job placement success during the past five years?

Is the analysis of any increase or decrease that is more than a one-year anomaly accurate?

Acceptable

Is the program's/department's plan of action for improving any identified problem or results likely to improve the job placement rate for graduates of the technical program(s)?

Acceptable

Curricula

Does the program/department have affiliation(s)/agreement(s)/contract(s) with any other entity for the purpose of delivering instructional content?

yes

Review the affiliation(s)/agreement(s)/contract(s), consider Amarillo College's mission, and then make a recommendation to:

Provide an analysis of the review.

The Welding program is currently providing training under contract for the City of Amarillo.

Industry training demands are very unstable. Qualified faculty for contracts are scarce. For the long term, any dependency on industry contracts appear hazardous.

If the program/department has affiliation(s)/agreement(s) with any other entity for the purpose of delivering instructional content, do these affiliations/agreements make it clear that Amarillo College maintains the responsibility for controlling all aspects of the educational program? Has the College ensured the quality of the program with these affiliations/agreements? If so, how? What is the schedule for reviewing the quality of these programs? Has the College ensured that programs remain with Amarillo College's mission?

Acceptable

How many curricula changes were approved by the Academic Affairs Committee during the past five years?

1

Which steps in the curricula change process had faculty involvement prior to submitting the curricula proposal(s) to the Academic Affairs Committee?

At the time of design for the new curriculum, all full-time Welding faculty provided input in the creation of classes and awards.

Was the departmental faculty involvement documented and broad in representation? If not, what steps within curricula change process should have had more proof of greater departmental faculty involvement? Is the primary responsibility for curricula changes under the control of faculty? Does the program have a qualified faculty member in charge of the program's coordination and curriculum development?

Acceptable

Is any program within the department a technical program (e.g. AAS or certificate)?

yes

When was the last Advisory Committee meeting?

The last advisory committee meeting for the Welding Technology program was in December 2006.

Provide a link to the minutes of the last Advisory Committee(s) minutes in the Electronic Archives.

Minutes of the Welding Technology program.

[http://www.actx.edu/archives/files/uplink/Welding Technology Advisory Committee Minutes 12 0206.pdf](http://www.actx.edu/archives/files/uplink/Welding_Technology_Advisory_Committee_Minutes_12_0206.pdf)

Provide a link to the appropriate committee membership of the Advisory Committee(s) in the Electronic Archives.

Advisory committee membership for the Welding Technology program as of December 2006.

[http://www.actx.edu/archives/files/uplink/Welding Technology Advisory Committee Members 2 006 2007.pdf](http://www.actx.edu/archives/files/uplink/Welding_Technology_Advisory_Committee_Members_2_006_2007.pdf)

If the department offers an AAS and/or certificate, do the minutes of the Advisory Committee prove that the curricula for each program is appropriate to the degree and/or certificate? Has the Advisory Committee been consulted in designing

each degree and certificate? Has the Advisory Committee met at least once a year and been provided ample opportunity to guide the faculty in curricula changes?

Acceptable

Concern

The committee has met and discussed the program; however, the last meeting was in December 2006. The committee should meet on a yearly basis.

Is the membership of the Advisory Committee broad enough to provide the scope of advice necessary for input on curricula? If not, what changes are recommended to the program/department?

Acceptable

Enrollment Data

After receiving the data indicating the number of students enrolled in the program/department, by total students, number of full-time equivalents, and number of completers, determine if there is more than a one-year anomaly.

If so, provide the faculty and staff analysis of their assessment of the problem.

Employment opportunities are tremendous for construction oriented workers. This has kept

many young people from seeking education. Many local industries have started their own training schools.

Does the analysis by the faculty and staff of this data address any obvious problems/declining statistics?

Unacceptable

Analysis is not complete. Unable to provide a recommendation based on the limited information provided.

Create an action plan for needed improvement and commendation for any dramatic improvement.

We have met several times with companies experiencing the same problem of recruiting people interested in welding. We continue to work on the problem.

Does the action plan or commendation address the problem addressed within the analysis? Does it appear that implementation of the action plan will resolve the problem and correct the decline?

Unacceptable

There is no action plan addressed. Unable to

provide a response.

Does the External Review Committee have any other analysis or recommendations for increasing enrollments based on the program/department's data?

Recommendation

Recommendation for advertising plan to recruit student as well as work with area businesses for training needs

For programs/departments with majors, review the graphs of program majors and the number of new majors by year.

Provide an analysis of the program's/department's faculty and staff assessment of the problem and an action plan for needed improvement and commendation for any dramatic improvement.

We continue to work on the problem along with industry.

Does the analysis by the faculty and staff of this data address any obvious problems/declining statistics regarding students enrolled as majors within the program/department? Does the action plan or commendation address the problem addressed within the analysis? Does it

appear that implementation of the action plan will resolve the problem and correct the decline? Does the External Review Committee have any other analysis or recommendations for increasing the number of students majoring in this program/department based on this program's/department's data?

Unacceptable

Analysis is not complete. Unable to provide a recommendation based on the limited information provided.

Resources

Review the five-year graph(s) of the student-to-faculty ratio in the program/department.

Explain any increase or decrease that is more than a one-year anomaly.

Five years ago, the student to teacher ratio was much higher and the waste of consumables and equipment loss was epidemic. Three years ago, the program underwent curriculum revision and an effort was made to limit the ratio to 12 students to one teacher whenever possible.

Does the analysis by the faculty and staff of this data address any obvious problems/declining statistics regarding

student-to-faculty ratio within this program/department?

Acceptable

Provide an action plan for improvement of any identified problem.

Efforts continue to streamline student course sequence.

Does the action plan or commendation address the problem addressed within the analysis? Does it appear that implementation of the action plan will resolve the problem and correct the decline? Does the External Review Committee have any other analysis or recommendations regarding student-to-faculty ratio within this program/department?

Unacceptable

Action plan not provided. Unable to provide a recommendation based on the limited information provided.

In the database for [Roster of Instructional Staff](#) (also known as Roster of Faculty), review the credentials of each full-time and part-time faculty member within the program/department.

If any faculty member does not meet the SACS and THECB requirements, evaluate whether additional documentation is significant to grant an exemption.

All full-time and part-time faculty members for the Welding Technology program meet SACS and THECB requirements.

Identify any faculty teaching a transfer course which, according to the information within the database for [Roster of Instructional Staff](#) (also known as Roster of Faculty) do not meet the requirements of faculty teaching a transfer course and explain the credential problem. Identify any faculty teaching a technical course which, according to the information within the database for [Roster of Instructional Staff](#) (also known as Roster of Faculty) do not meet the requirements of faculty teaching a technical course and explain the credential problem based on SACS requirements and/or THECB requirements. Identify any faculty teaching a developmental course which, according to the information within the database for [Roster of Instructional Staff](#) (also known as Roster of Faculty) do not meet the requirements of faculty teaching a developmental course and

explain the credential problem.

Acceptable

List the names and the last date for all full-time faculty evaluations based on the schedule indicated in the Faculty Performance Review (FPRP).

Mr. Jay Anders, Instructor, Welding Technology was evaluated during the spring of 2007. He has been the only full-time instructor for the Welding program since the fall semester of 2004.

If any full-time faculty member (or Board-appointed faculty member) has not been completed the Faculty Performance Review (FPRP) within the past two years and is listed in the aforementioned Roster of Instructional Staff (also known as Roster of Faculty), identify the faculty member's name and the date of the last FPRP.

Acceptable

List the names of each part-time faculty and the last date of evaluation by students and supervisor for each course taught.

Mr. Jimmy Bradshaw had courses evaluated in the fall 2007 semester.

Mr. Kham Nakhiengchanh had his courses last evaluated in the fall 2007 semester.

If any part-time faculty member has not been evaluated by both students and supervisor for each course taught within the past year and is listed in the aforementioned Roster of Instructional Staff (also known as Roster of Faculty), identify the faculty member's name and state the specific problem.

Acceptable

Amarillo College's Board Policy Manual defines each faculty member's academic freedom as "full freedom in the classroom in discussing the subject being taught and to pursue research and publications. However, a faculty member must not attempt to force on students a personal viewpoint and must at all times allow for diversity of opinion." Has anyone in the program/department filed a grievance for violation of the aforementioned academic freedom?

no

If anyone within the department has filed a grievance for violation of academic freedom based on the definition stated in Amarillo College's Board Policy Manual, briefly

describe the violation (excluding personal identifiers) and the total number of violations.

Acceptable

Which of the following library collections/resources/services have been used by faculty, staff and/or students within the past five years? (Select all that apply.)

Electronic journals Interlibrary loan Personalized instruction Reference collection

Does it appear that the library collections/resources/services used by the faculty, staff, and/or students within the past five years are accurate and thorough?

Acceptable

Which two or three collection/resources/services should be improved to support Amarillo College's mission regarding teaching and service?

Has the program/department identified which two or three collections/resources/services should be improved to support Amarillo College's mission regarding teaching and service?

Unacceptable

No answer provided

Does your program/department have discipline accreditation?

no

How has the library participated in this discipline's accreditation?

Does the program/department have a discipline accreditation? IF SO, has the library participated in completing the approver's evaluation?

Acceptable

After assessing the strengths and weaknesses of the program's/department's access to technology, what improvements would ensure that students have access and training in the use of technology?

The Welding Technology program has never had network access and students do not have computer access on location. This has prevented checking standards or doing research on projects. This should be corrected soon.

Does the program's/department's assessment of strengths and weaknesses include ways to improve both students' access to & training in the use of technology?

Acceptable

What improvements would ensure that students use technology?

Availability and course requirements will ensure students use technology.

Does the program's /department's answer include improvements that would ensure that students use technology? Are the recommendation(s) of this program/department feasible?

Acceptable

Review program/department operations. Does any operation present the possibility for violations of security, confidentiality, or integrity of student records?

no

What changes need to be made to prevent violations of this nature?

After a review of this program's /department's operations based on this Self-Study and any other information available to this Committee, does any operation present the possibility for violations of security, confidentiality, or integrity of student records? If so, describe

those operations and identify the violation possibility in detail.

Acceptable

What changes need to be made to prevent violations of this nature?

Which support services need to be strengthened to better serve students in this program/department?

All services are doing the best that can be expected.

Explain what aspects of the services need to be strengthened.

Support services continually changes to maintain the best possible amenities.

Do the Self-Study recommendations of this program/department for support services that need to be improved appear to be valid?

No analysis provided. Unable to make recommendations based on the limited information provided.

Describe any indicators or problems that prevent a healthy, safe and secure environment for the students, faculty and staff of this program/department.

Ventilation and lighting is so poor that it is an imminent health hazard.

Are recommendations to assure a healthy, safe and secure environment for staff and students of this program/department valid? Are any of these recommendation(s) more significant and/or urgent?

Acceptable

Describe any indicators or problems that hamper adequate physical facilities, both on and off campus, to meet the needs of the program/department.

The Welding facility is unsecure, dark, dirty, inflexible in design, low ceiling, limited on electrical capabilities, and presents many problems. Much of the equipment is fixed in place and in poor repair. Needed repairs exceed the value of the building. Manifolds and storage facilities fall short of OSHA requirements and are leaking. Electrical service is hazardous and unsafe in many locations of the building. Bad news!!

Do any of the problems or concerns regarding adequate physical facilities appear to be significant and/or urgent? Are there any other needs which this Self-Study didn't cite but are critical based on other information? Which of these needs are most significant and/or urgent?

Acceptable

Budget

Which program/department outcomes have resulted in budget requests to date?

No outcome, including increases in enrollment or increases in completers, has resulted in the opportunity to increase budget requests.

Have any of this program's/department's outcomes resulted in budget requests to date? If not, why not?

Acceptable

Project the program's/department's strategic initiatives for the next five years based on the program's/department's outcomes.

The strategies planned for the Welding program include upgrading equipment, streamlining expenses, raising the level of instruction,

improving facilities and seeking to raise the bar for students. The Welding program would fare better with fewer completers who could truly meet industries' needs. Instructional efficiencies include efforts to align students on a smoother course plan.

Has this program/department been able to project strategic initiatives for the next five years based on the program's/department's outcomes? If not, what appears to be blocking this program/department from accomplishing this?

Acceptable

Publications

If the program/department publishes any advertising or recruitment documents (electronic or paper), do the documents accurately represent Amarillo College and the program/department?

no

If no, explain what is inaccurate.

All references to the Welding program exaggerate the knowledge to be gained in the current setting. Web pages and brochures contain pictures which suggest advanced competencies. All curriculum listings and

descriptions promise course outcomes which are not being achieved.

IF the program/department has published any advertising or recruitment documents (electronic or paper), check at least one copy of each document and determine whether it accurately represents Amarillo College and the office/department?

Acceptable

IF anything appears to be inaccurate, identify the apparent violation.

Acceptable

Does the program/department publish any documents (electronic or paper) with references to SACS accreditation?

no

Are the references in compliance with SACS approved statement?

Which reference is not in compliance? Describe how you will assure compliance for all references in the future.

IF the program/department has published any document(s) with a reference to SACS accreditation, are all references consistent with the approved statement? (Approved reference: Amarillo College is accredited by

the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award associate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Amarillo College.) IF any references are inconsistent, identify all documents with the inconsistent reference(s).

Acceptable

IF the Self-Study did identify the inconsistencies, does the plan for assuring future compliance appear to correct the problem? IF the Self-Study did NOT identify all inconsistencies, what plan does this Committee recommend?

Acceptable

Other

State any additional comments/concerns which may impact this program/department during the next five years.

The most imminent threat to the program is the inflation of equipment and supply prices. Consumables are up 400 to 500 percent over the

last two and a half years. Almost all the functional equipment in the Welding program is over 40 years old, has little or no trade in value, and will be prohibitive to replace. Much of this equipment has received no maintenance and is in poor repair. Safety is a major concern for the continuation of the program. \$\$Millions!!\$\$

Another concern is the changing student body. The coming generation has less building or assembly experience to build on. Learning to weld takes a tremendous amount of time. Learning the other skills involved in welding take time. Few students enter the program with the commitment and finances to complete a proper program.

IF additional comments/concerns were included in the Self-Study regarding items which may impact this program/department during the next five years, what recommendations and/or concerns are warranted? IF NO such items were included in the Self-Study but this Committee feels such comments or concerns are valid, cite them and include any relevant recommendations.

Acceptable

