Institutional Summary Reports
For
Midlands Technical College

Introduction

This summary report for Midlands Technical College (MTC) includes: Majors or Concentrations, and Library Resources and Services.

The following components will be reported in the annotated year: General Education (2006), Procedures for Student Development Achievement of Students (2007), Achievement of Students Transferring From Two-to-Four Year Institutions (2006) and Academic Advising (2008).

The final section of the report contains MTC's statement concerning the institution's policies and procedures to provide a "technologically skilled workforce."

1. General Education

This component was last reported in 2002. Based on the report schedule, this component will be reported next in 2006.

2. Majors or Concentrations

Midlands Technical College (MTC) assesses specific majors on a three-to-five year cycle that is designed to coincide with the reaffirmation visit from external accreditation agencies, where applicable. The assessment of majors determines the degree to which specific programs provide specialized knowledge, skills and attitudes leading to employment in the field or discipline and/or success in transfer to a senior-level program.

The program review process, which generates the assessment of majors, includes an analysis of the specific data elements identified to evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of the academic programs offered at MTC. The effectiveness component of the process focuses on the learning outcomes, clients' satisfaction, and the vitality of each program. The efficiency component focuses on quantitative data that indicates the programs' cost, space utilization rate, and average size of course section taught.

In 2003-2004 the Dental Hygiene (DHG), Medical Assisting (MED), Nuclear Medicine Technology (NMT), Radiology Technology (RAD), Medical Laboratory Technology (MLT), and Expanded Duty Dental Assisting (DAT) completed the program assessment process and developed recommendations for program improvement. In 2004-2005, these programs completed the following actions:

- Medical Assisting was successfully re-accredited through 2010.
- The Medical Assisting Program restructured its Advisory Committee. This change resulted in better communication between the program and committee members, Advisory committee members having the opportunity to actively participate in classroom sessions, committee members providing training in job searching and interview

techniques and funding to help the top students pay for their national certification examination fees.

- Medical Assisting made significant progress in improving and expanding its technological resources by the updating its computer lab, utilizing trainers from numerous local health insurance providers to demonstrate to students the technology and resources available to them upon employment in medical practices and utilizing Web CT to complement traditional courses.

- The PHASE II portion of the Dental Hygiene curriculum was redesigned to better ensure that students are able to maintain full-time status (and accompanying financial assistance) and to prepare the program to better handle impending faculty retirements.

- ADEP faculty applied for a curriculum development grant to implement the use of new equipment in teaching and utilized the 2004 dental hygiene alumni reunion to garner funding to purchase several small pieces of equipment.

- ADEP completed an organizational review and developed preliminary plans addressing impending faculty retirements. The plan focuses on the strength of the existing faculty to move into other content areas and coordinator positions and the recruitment of faculty with previous MTC teaching experience.

- The Nuclear Medicine Technology program was successful in securing a full-time clinical coordinator which will enable the program to operate at its full capacity of 23 students and to meet service area employment demands.

- Nuclear Medicine added clinical competencies and rotations and implemented academic changes in the clinical procedures and radiation safety portions of the curriculum to enable the program to incorporate Positron Emission Tomography.

- Based on student input, the curriculum of the Nuclear Medicine program is being analyzed to determine the feasibility of including instruction in EKG in NMT 101 and of adding venipuncture training.

- Medical Laboratory Technology has intensified its recruiting efforts by developing a lab professional recruitment team staffed by practicing laboratory professionals. These individuals will assist in career fairs, health recruitment days, middle school/high school career activities and promoting the field of laboratory medicine within their communities. The program has also collaborated with industrial representatives to preview and purchase recruitment videos to be used for health career classes and other recruitment activities. Continued advisement of pre-health students has increased the number of students interested in MLT and improved courses placement so that more students are ready to start program courses earlier.

- Molecular theory has been incorporated into MLT 115- Immunology & Serology and MLT 104/205 Basic Microbiology and Advanced Microbiology to meet the changing demands of the work environment. The program is also in the process of obtaining supplies to incorporate techniques such as SDS-PAGE, Western Blot, Protein electrophoresis, and PCR into selected MLT courses

- A local hospital donated a digital printer for the Radiography lab which will enable the program to view and print teaching images in the lab.

- To provide better educational opportunities for the students, three more clinical sites in the Columbia area were added for the Radiological Technology (RAD) program.

- The RAD program secured additional funding to meet the cost increases that occurred with its move to the Airport campus.

3. Academic Advising

This component was last reported in 2004. Based on the report schedule, this component will be reported next in 2008.

4. Achievement of Students Transferring From Two-to-Four Year Institutions

This component was last reported in 2004. Based on the report schedule, this component will be reported next in 2006.

5. Procedures for Student Development

This component was last reported in 2003. Based on the report schedule, this component will be reported next in 2007.

6. Library Resources and Services

The library of Midlands Technical College (MTC) serves the informational and research needs of the college's students, faculty and staff. Services offered by the library include reference, research, online database searching, acquisition and processing of materials, and interlibrary loan. Library activities are systematically evaluated through the use of institutional effectiveness measures, internal reports and internal statistics. The assessment of the effectiveness of library services at Midlands Technical College includes satisfaction with services, usage, and collection development. Data regarding patron usage and user satisfaction are analyzed to determine the library's effectiveness in meeting the college's educational goals and to improve the overall performance of the library.

As a result of the previous action plan objectives, the library worked with other departments to help individual instructors develop assignments, an information literacy instruction packet was developed, and library staff visited various departments to instruct them on information literacy. A new integrated library system, SIRSI, went live in December 2003. Virtual reference service started in 2003 with email requests and in the fall of 2004 expanded with chat reference.

Surveys of library users indicate a very high level of satisfaction with the services provided by the library staff. The 2004 Student Satisfaction Survey reported a very high level of satisfaction with the services provided by the library staff. The 2004 Student Satisfaction Survey reported: students agreed that the basic library activities were easy to use, they agreed the librarians and staff were knowledgeable and helpful, and they agreed that the books, magazines or journals, electronic databases and hours of operation available from the library met their needs. The lowest level of satisfaction was noted in the space available in the library and the instruction rooms.

The 2004 Faculty Satisfaction Survey indicated that the responding faculty felt that the library contains an adequate collection of print and electronic resources for their programs, they felt they were given adequate opportunities to participate in the acquisition of library books, and they agreed 100% that the service they receive from the librarians is professional and level appropriate.

Analysis of internal statistics and reports indicates that library services have expanded in the delivery of online books and the number of individuals accessing the library through its web page. A comparison between the services offered in 2002 and 2004 notes the following improvements: the addition of nineteen databases, addition of over 18,000 online books, loaning of laptop computers, and the establishment of virtual reference.

Finally, the Academic Success Center (ASC) was moved from Developmental Studies to the Library in May 2003. During the past two years it was reorganized and a concentrated effort was made to improve the quality of services. Over 90% of the students using the center reported high satisfaction on five of the six areas examined. Ninety-six percent of the students agreed that ASC was a valuable resource to help them reach their academic goals.

The following objectives have been developed for 2005-2009: 1) conduct an inventory of the library collection and update the catalog, 2) develop an information literacy course for Education majors, 3) implement universal borrowing working with PASCAL, 4) design an information literacy evaluation tool and evaluate the effectiveness of library instruction

Midlands Technical College's Statement-

In 2001, the SC Legislature amended SC 59-101 to include the following statement requiring all institutions to report:

- Appropriate information relating to each institution's role and mission <u>to include policies and procedures to ensure that academic programs support the economic development needs in the State by providing a technologically skilled workforce.</u>

The statement below represents Midlands Technical College's response to this reporting requirement.

Midlands Technical College's role in providing the region with a technologically skilled workforce is reflected in its policies, programs and practices. At the core of its mission statement, MTC communicates its obligation to support the economic growth of the community by providing work-force training for new and expanding industries and technology transfer for developing companies. This is echoed in the first two goals of the college's Strategic Plan, in which the college commits to evaluating and revising its curricula to meet the needs of the community's workplaces.

This commitment to workforce development is rooted in practice as well as its policy. As part of the MTC Program Review process, the college regularly assesses its graduates' capstone competencies to help determine how prepared these graduates are to meet the employment needs of area business and industry. Through its Advisory Committees, employers review an MTC program's current technology and curriculum, and where necessary, make recommendations for improvement. This direct input assists the college in keeping its programs curriculum current and in tune with future industry trends.

Through its documents and practices, Midlands Technical College's clearly states its commitment to academic programs that support the economic development needs of its service area by providing employers a technologically skilled workforce.

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