**2018-2019 PROGRAM REVIEW**

***Western Nevada College***

*Associate of Applied Science, Technology*

1. **Description of Program reviewed**

The Associate of Applied Science in Technology provides employment-related knowledge and skills necessary as a professional in one of eight areas of study: automated systems, automotive mechanics, computer information technology, construction, general industry, machine tool technology, mechatronics, and welding.

Students who complete an Associate of Applied Science in Technology are expected to:

* Know the subject matter appropriate to the emphasis of the degree.
* Communicate effectively and appropriately, in oral and written form.
* Locate, evaluate and properly utilize the tools and resources appropriate to a technology degree professional.
* Acquire skills and perform tasks necessary for employment or career enhancement.
* Develop an appreciation of the importance of social, ethical, legal and diversity issues.
* Develop an appreciation of the need and importance of lifelong learning.

1. **Review Process and Criteria**

Academic Program Review at Western Nevada College is guided by the Program Assessment and Review Committee (PARC), with additional guidance and support provided by the Vice President of Instruction and Institutional Effectiveness (VPIIE), Institutional Research and Effectiveness (IRE), and the Academic Division Director overseeing the academic program undergoing review.

The Associate of Applied Science (AAS) Technology program review was conducted by a Program Review Team headed by academic faculty member Nigel Harrison with assistance from faculty representatives in each of the eight areas of study under the AAS Technology degree. WNC Professional and Applied Technology (PAT) Division Director Georgia White was selected as the internal reviewer.

The process involves a program self-assessment, curriculum review, formal report, presentation of findings to the college community, and student panel interviews. Following the presentation and review of the report, WNC President Vincent Solis, VPIIE, PARC, and the Program Review Team met to discuss program review conclusions and recommendations. Finally, the Program Review Team used these findings to develop a five-year action and assessment plan for the next five-year period.

1. **Major Findings and Conclusions of the Program Review**

The AAS Technology degree covers a range of diverse professional training and skills. All subject areas under this degree provided excellent evidence of strong connections with area industry, hands-on student training and employment opportunities, and plans to continue growing these connections. A shared emphasis on teaching AAS Technology students in-demand soft skills, in addition to industry-ready technical skills, was another strength of the degree. Enrollment numbers support increased course offerings in alignment with area industry needs.

1. **Next Steps for this Program Based on Program Review Findings and Recommendations**

PARC provided the following recommended next steps following the program review presentation and exit interview with the Program Review Team and WNC leadership:

* PARC supports the recommendations discussed during the presentation and exit interview, which include:
  + Working with outreach staff campus-wide to support expanded outreach efforts.
  + Creating a full-time outreach position, especially in support of connecting with nontraditional/adult/returning/part-time student populations.
  + Reviewing curriculum and course offerings within certain areas to match student interest and changing professional pathways (such as an increased emphasis on security within the area of Computer Information Technology).
  + Exploring the creation of a Soft Skills certificate.
* PARC recommends that the Technology Program Review Team submit the final Internal Reviewer Report, External Reviewer Report, and standard Five-Year Action Plan as the final portion of their 2018 Academic Program Review.
* PARC recommends that progress toward positive program developments and plans discussed in the presentation and exit interview be included in the forthcoming May 2019 Program Update Report and the November 2019 Annual Program Assessment Report. These reports are part of WNC’s new planning and assessment cycles, and will be completed by the CTE Assessment and Planning Lead Faculty.
* PARC recommends better tracking “job upgrade” students who are not seeking degrees or certificates. As a part of this effort, programs could communicate with industry partners about their preference for students who can demonstrate competency and skills in specific areas (those taking a collection of courses as a “job upgrade”) vs.  those who complete full degree programs.

1. **Descriptive Statistics**
   1. **Number of students with declared major in the program area:**

2018-19 264

* 1. **Number of graduates from the program for the following years:**

2016-17 24

2017-18 21

2018-19 29

* 1. **Headcount of students enrolled in any course related to the program (duplicated):**

Fall 2018 999

***VI.*  Please submit a copy of the corresponding institutional report. You may submit this in the form of an electronic file (e.g. PDF or Word) or you may provide a weblink to the report from which we will create a file. These reports should be formatted in such a way that they do not include any information that should not be made public. These reports will be filed in a web location that interested parties may access via a weblink that we will create. Please indicate below whether you are attaching the report or providing a weblink:**

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