Piedmont Community College

Business Studies and Emerging Technologies

Executive Summary
May 23, 2011

The Executive Summary for the Biotechnology and Laboratory Technology Review is submitted below. The report focuses on strengths, challenges, recommendations, and a plan of action. The comprehensive report is complete. Members of the committee were:

Sherry Stewart	Dean, Business Studies and Emerging Technologies
Randy Durren	Instructor, Biotechnology/Laboratory/ Technology/Biology
Stephen DeSimone	Instructor, Biology
Laurie McKay	Instructor, Biology
Lisa Palmer	Coordinator, Institutional Researcher
Randy Reynolds	Director, Business Development & Entrepreneurship CT

STRENGTHS

Strengths identified by the committee and external sources such as advisory committees, employers of our graduates, employer's surveys, and student surveys (class and instructor evaluations):

- Well developed degrees for students to transfer or to work in industry.
- Opportunity for biotechnology Huskins certificate.
- Selection of articulation agreements.
- Variety of equipment such as a biodiesel reactor and the Video Capture System.
- Extensive LRC collection and resources.
- Agreements with high schools – Huskins.
- Continuation of summer camps.
- Opportunities for full scholarships through the Biomanufacturing Research Institute and Technology Enterprise (BRITE) Program for transfer students.
- Partnerships – Continuing Education, Pitt CC, NC Bionetwork, Spuntex, Revlon, and PCBIC (Person County Business Industrial Commission).
- Support for the programs – administration, faculty, adjunct faculty, Bio Bus, industry, businesses – Revlon and Spuntex.
- Dedicated, knowledgeable and experienced instructor/advisor.
- Well qualified adjunct faculty.

CHALLENGES

Challenges identified by the committee, external sources, and students:

- Low completion rates across NCCC.
- Lack of funding for travel and promotion.
- Inadequate space for Biotechnology/Laboratory Technology programs.
- Limited faculty (one full time instructor for two programs).
- Need a coordinator.
- Limited local job opportunities.
- Wearing and older equipment.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations to improve the programs:

- Promote at community events.
- Post program information on the campus flat screens.
- Continue summer camps.
- Apply for grants. (Travel/promotion and equipment/training.)
- Hire a coordinator and more FT/adjunct faculty.
- Prepare for new biotechnology lab.
- Purchase equipment.
- Add a lab fee of $20-$25 per student.
- Advertise programs with the SGA.
- Begin a PCC Biotechnology Club.

ACTION PLAN

The table below addresses the action plan:

Item	Plan	Responsibility	Timeline
Promoting	Promote at community events. Post information on the campus flat screens. Continue summer camps. Offer courses for biotechnology Huskins certificate.	Sherry Stewart and Randy Durren	Spring 2012
Hiring	Request a coordinator and a full-time instructor.	Sherry Stewart	Fall 2011
Space/ Equipment	Plan for a new biotechnology lab. Purchase new/updated equipment for wearing and older equipment.	Sherry Stewart and Randy Durren	Fall 2012- 2015
Biotech Club	Explore idea of initiating a PCC Biotechnology Club/National Biotechnology Club.	Randy Durren	Spring 2012
Grants	Apply for grants such as Education Enhancement Grants and Greenforce Initiative Grants for equipment and training.	Randy Durren	Fall 2011