

PROGRAM REVIEW – ANNUAL REPORT

Date:	April 2, 2008
Program Area:	AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY
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Address completely each of the following topics. Use extra pages as needed. Attach your Action Plan reflecting program/division goals, objectives, and priorities.

1. Please identify all progress towards your goals as stated in the last formal Program Review and/or previous annual report.

We have made progress towards several of the general goals listed in the 2006-2007 program review:

Equipment Replacement-

- The Auto Technology program has recently been authorized to purchase 5 new laptop computers for student use. This will be a huge benefit to the students as it will allow lab classes to run more smoothly.
- The department has also obtained, by donation, a Sun Engine Analyzer. This new piece of diagnostic equipment will replace several ailing and obsolete units.
- In an effort to reduce the hazardous waste generated by the Auto Tech Department, we have purchased a *Smart Washer* to replace our solvent tank. The new bioremediation parts washer doesn't generate any hazardous waste.

Greater collaboration with other schools, the community and industry

In our ongoing effort to establish and strengthen community, industry and school partnerships, we have been working on several projects:

- To better "bridge the gap" between secondary and post-secondary institutions, we have been working on a joint project with Monterey High School. Thus far, the project has increased awareness of our program and will likely generate more interest and attention as it nears completion. This endeavor involves restoring and modifying a sports car which, when complete, can also be used as a recruiting tool.
- Whenever possible, we have been seeking ways to collaborate with the high school programs in the area. Last fall, I attended an automotive trade show with the instructors from Monterey and Seaside High. This spring we will also be attending a conference together.
- Over the last year, students and instructors from the Auto Tech Department have been volunteering at events at Laguna Seca. This endeavor gets the students involved in the community, establishes some important contacts in the sports car community, and brings in some funds for other projects.
- Recently, we have been working with Evergreen Valley College and Honda Motor Company to establish an articulation that would give MPC Auto Tech students a "leg up" in the working world. This partnership would allow students to receive Honda Trade Certifications in addition to their MPC Certificate or Diploma.

2.

3. Please identify any changes in plans to meet any of the stated goals.

- The MPC Auto Tech Department's effort to reestablish ties with Merced Community College through the Toyota Technical Education Network (T-TEN) has not had much success in terms of providing a viable career pathway for students. While this endeavor has resulted in several large donations for Toyota Motor Sales, we have not had any students take advantage of this option. This seems largely due to conditions surrounding transportation and/or relocating for a short period of time. Although this option will still be promoted, we will be focusing more on an articulation with Evergreen Valley College and Honda Motors. This particular option is logistically more viable for students.

3. Please identify any new challenges and/or opportunities that have emerged since the last report.

Opportunities for New Courses to Serve Community and Increase FTES

- The Auto Tech Department is currently exploring opportunities to better serve the needs of industry in the community through our course offerings. The first step in this process is to identify the needs. To this end, we will be meeting with our advisory council in May to seek input on future course development. Some of the areas we are considering are: Smog, hybrid vehicles, diesel engines, and service management.
- Another opportunity that has arisen to better serve the needs of the students and the community is the possible renovation/expansion of the Auto Tech Building.

Challenges that have Emerged

- One of the challenges that has emerged recently in the Auto Tech's effort to broaden its course offerings to meet the needs of the community is the loss of the program's BAR certification. Between March of '07 and March of '08, the program was certified by the Bureau of Automotive Repair to teach smog classes. However, we were not able to renew our certification without a BAR 97 emission analyzer. We had previously borrowed one from Hartnell but it was not available this spring.

4. Please identify any revisions to your goals or plans due to new challenges and/or opportunities that have emerged since the last report or ineffective previous plans.

Revision of Goals due to Challenges

- In the spring of '07 we planned to conduct a self evaluation of department as one of the last steps toward national accreditation through the National Automotive Technician Education Foundation (NATEF). This process was derailed as the result of a staffing shortage. With a new full-time lab technician on-board, the process has once again resumed and the self evaluation is on target for this spring. This process will also involve a curriculum review.

