



PROGRAM COMPREHENSIVE REPORT

2022 - 2023

Program Review (P) - Agriculture

Program Planning

2022 - 2023

General Information

Briefly describe your program.

The VC AG program prepares students for a variety of careers within the vast agriculture industry, from Plant Science, Agribusiness management, Food Safety, and Veterinary Technology. Likewise, our program includes non-credit options in Food Safety and Bilingual instruction in our Ag Field Supervisor courses.

How does your program support VC's mission?

The Agriculture program supports VC's mission of engaging the community and students in career education for one of the most economically important industries in the county: Agriculture. We directly support students working towards ADTs in Plant Science and AG Business, as well as local degrees and certificates in the former, as well as those in Food Safety, Vet Tech, and Ag Field Supervisor, the latter a non-credit program utilizing ESL and bilingual instruction to increase the skill sets of current agricultural field workers, allowing them to seek career advancement opportunities within the industry.

Which disciplines are included in your program?

The overarching discipline is AG, but there are 5 main pathways under this discipline: Plant Science (AST and COA), Ag Business (AST and COA), Food Safety (AS, COA and COCN), Veterinary Technology (COA and AS) and Ag Field Supervisor (COCN).

SWOT Analysis: What are the strengths of your program?

Strong curriculum aligned with ADT requirements for Plant Sci and Ag Bus. Accreditation alignment of courses for Vet Tech. Industry support for all programs, in the form of partnerships on teaching facilities (Avocado Orchard, Vet Tech teaching labs, etc) as well as strong advisory boards for all programs. Continuous industry feedback for improvement of courses, curriculum and learning outcomes in each program area. Experienced and knowledgeable adjunct faculty as well as strong teaching skills.

SWOT Analysis: What are the weaknesses of your program?

Lack of resources and financial support from VC administration for improvement of facilities and advancement of program. Lack of full time faculty to effectively support current programs and allow for growth. Lack of understanding on part of administration regarding real opportunities to be gained from allowing fully online degree programs to proceed (as decided pre-pandemic).

SWOT Analysis: What are some opportunities for your program?

Opportunities to engage with community and industry in additional collaboration/partnerships including: Dual Enrollment, Community Education, partnerships with CSUCI and UC Extension for teaching/research projects, K-12 collaboration for enhanced Ag Literacy. Likewise, continued opportunities exist for expanded collaborations with industry partners for internships, industry tours, conferences, etc... Major opportunity exists for capitalizing on expanded interest in online education with offering Food Safety degree and certificate 100% online, as well as Ag Business AST/COA, as OEI grant from 2019 included work to create online teaching resources for the Ag Business program, and potential exists across the state to enroll students in Ag Business courses as part of the AS-T.

SWOT Analysis: What are some threats to your program?

Continued threat of facility degradation due to lack of support from campus administration (ex: rodent infestation within orchard cannot be controlled unless campus addresses infestation across entire campus). Threat of loss of industry support as a result of lack of progress on program facility initiatives such as construction of new greenhouse and hoop house. Lack of committed collaboration between high school Ag programs and VC to position VC Ag program as equivalent to CSU Ag courses under the ASTs for Plant Sci and Ag Bus, leading to a lack of matriculation from high school ag programs to VC. Biggest threat is potential loss of valuable faculty (F/T and P/T) due to burnout and excessive burden of responsibilities

Program Planning

due to lack of sufficient F/T faculty. Threat of denial of accreditation for Vet Tech program due to lack of facilities, resources and instructional and support staff, as well as inability to grow and expand beyond current cohort capacity.

Enrollment & Demographics

General Observations

Enrollment as seen steady gains in all main programs (Plant Sci, Ag Bus and Vet Tech), with Vet Tech providing the largest bump in enrollment in AY 2019-2020

Over the past five years, what was the trend in your program's enrollment?

Increased

Has there been a substantial decrease in any of your program's disciplines?

No

If yes, please list disciplines and reasons for the decrease in enrollment.

Unable to determine, as AG combines all 5 pathways, with data unable to dis aggregate based on specific pathway

Are student gender demographics similar between your program and the college?

Yes

Are student ethnic demographics similar between your program and the college?

Yes

Please describe any areas where your program's demographics vary from the college.

N/A

Course Success Rate

General Observations

Success rate was on a downward trend until AY 2019-2020, which could be attributed to several factors including addition of F/T Ag faculty as well as introduction of Vet Tech program. Overall success rates have exceed VC rate in AY 21-22

Was the most recent year's course success rate higher than the college standard of 66.7%?

Yes

Was the most recent year's course success rate higher than the overall college average?

Yes

Has your course success rate increased, decreased, or remained constant over the past 5 years?

Increased

Click the "Disciplines" tab - Describe any differences between the disciplines in your program.

Again, the data is insufficient as it combines all 5 pathways under the same discipline of AG, not allowing for an accurate analysis between pathways such as Plant Sci, Ag Bus, Vet Tech, etc...

Click the "Ethnicity" Report on the right - Are there gaps in your course success rate by ethnicity?

Yes

How have these gaps changed over the past five years?

Increased

Click the "Gender" Report on the right - Are there gaps in your course success rate by gender?

Yes

How have these gaps changed over the past five years?

Increased

Describe what your program has done over the past 3 years to close equity gaps in course success.

Inclusion of equity minded teaching practices as well as course design

Program Planning

Student Completion

Does your program offer a degree or certificate of achievement?

Yes

How does your program contribute to VC's goal of increasing our degree/certificate/transfer rate?

Offer AD-Ts in Ag Business and Plant Science, as well as COAs in those areas, aligning courses with requirements at CSU Ag programs. Likewise have local AS and COA in Vet Tech aligned with National AVMA (American Veterinary Medical Assoc) curriculum standards for accreditation.

Within the past five years, what is the trend for your program's degree/certificates awarded?

ASTs have increased in both AG Bus and Plant Sci (though growth should be expected as programs are new). Largest increase is in COA for Vet Tech, as that program is a cohort model and COA is pre-requisite for entry into AS program. Likewise, Ag Field Supervisor is another cohort program, showing strong completion rates. The data makes the argument for cohort model of instruction that should be considered in future planning for AG Business and Plant Science pathways, as it is clear the cohort model has much higher completion/success rates.

Are any of the degrees/certificates in your program on the program warning list?

No

Describe why this degree/certificate has fewer than 15 awards over the past five years.

All these programs are new within the last 4 or less years, and need more time, as well as increased faculty resources (including more faculty hires) in order to offer all the courses required for the various pathways, especially Food Safety and Plant Science

Describe why this degree/certificate should continue to be offered.

There is demand and need for these pathways, and time should be given to allow these programs to grow and gain enrollments.

Click the "Award Ethnicity" Report on the right – Are there equity gaps by ethnicity?

Yes

If yes, please describe.

White students show a larger gap between students and completers, as well as the 2 or more category.

Click the "Award Gender" Report on the right – Are there equity gaps by gender?

Yes

If yes, please describe.

There is gap between Male enrolled students and Male completers

Click the "CSU/UC Transfers" Report on the right - How has the number of CSU Transfers changed over the past 5 years?

Decreased

Click the "CSU/UC Transfers" Report on the right - How has the number of UC Transfers changed over the past 5 years?

Decreased

Click the "Transfer Ethnicity" Report on the right – Are there equity gaps by ethnicity?

Yes

If yes, please describe.

White, Asian, and 2 or More categories of students are not transferring to CSUs from the program

Click the "Transfer Gender" Report on the right – Are there equity gaps by gender?

No

If yes, please describe.

N/a

Course Offerings

General Observations

Insufficient Data as program is less than 5 years old

Program Planning

Are there any disciplines in which 30% or more of classes haven't been offered in the past 5 years?

No

If yes, please enter the discipline(s), and the reason(s) why the classes haven't been offered.

Within Pathways, we have not been able to offer the full breadth of Food Safety courses as we are lacking in faculty resources

CSLOs

Briefly summarize the results of your Course SLOs.

All courses assessed have met minimum CSLO targets

Which SLO initiatives had the greatest impact on student learning in your program?

N/A

PSLOs

Briefly summarize the results of your Program SLOs.

All PSLOs assessed have met minimum targets for AG Bus and Ag Field Sup - Missing data on Plant Science, Vet Tech and Food Safety

Which PSLO initiatives had the greatest impact on student learning in your program?

N/A

Labor Market Data - CE Only

Describe the 3-year projections for the occupations that your program prepares students for.

Growth is expected in all areas of Agriculture, though data is missing for specific areas such as Vet Tech, Food Safety, etc

Are any occupations projected to decline?

No

If yes, which occupations?

N/A

Describe the median hourly earnings for the occupations that your program prepares students for.

All occupations listed that align with VC AG program have earnings above \$20/hour. Data does not accurately portray careers within Ag industry for students from the Ag Business and Vet Tech pathways

What steps is your program taking to ensure that graduates are hired by regional employers?

Continuous collaboration with industry partners for internship opportunities, field trips with students to industry job sites, guest speakers and attendance of industry at career events on campus.

Objective

3-Year Objective

Develop and implement an Agriculture Program at Ventura College.

What specific actions will you take to meet this objective?

Write curriculum and program outline that creates a viable Agriculture Program where students will be able to successfully transfer to a 4-year institution or get the necessary certificate. To increase course offerings, the visibility, and enrollment in the Agriculture Program. Increase degree and certificate offerings.

Which of the following Educational Master Plan Goals does this objective align with?

Goal 1: Increase the success of our students while closing equity gaps, Goal 2: Increase our community's access to transfer, workforce preparation, and basic skills education, Goal 3: Strengthen local/regional partnerships and community engagement, Goal 5: Effectively manage campus resources to meet student and community needs

Which of the following Student Equity Plan Goals does this objective align with?

Goal 1: Access and Successful Enrollment, Goal 4: Transfer, Goal 5: Degree/Certificate Completion

Review Type

Comprehensive

Program Review Cycle

2022 - 2025

Objective Status

Active

Completion Date

05/18/2022

Year 2: Describe Progress Made Towards Objective

New programs as of AY 20-21: AS and COA in Plant Science, AS and COA in Vet Tech, current proposals for AS and COA in Food Safety and COC in Ag Field Supervisor waiting local approval before each can be sent to the state for final approval

Year 2: Discuss Any Challenges You Encountered in Progressing Towards This Objective.

Major obstacles and challenges occurred with local review/approval process within curriculum. Program proposals submitted last year still awaiting final local approvals - when they should have been approved last Fall/Spring.

Year 3: Describe Progress Made Towards This Objective

Continued growth of program with 5 different pathways in AG (Plant Sci, Ag Bus, Vet Tech, Food Safety, and Ag Supervisor). Total of 2 AS-Ts, 2 AS degrees, 4 COAs and 2 COCNs offered. Program continues plans for expansion with inclusion of another Plant COA (Pest Control) in AY 2023 as well as interdisciplinary COAs in Applied Industrial Tech (Heavy Equipment/Ag Mech).

Year 3: Discuss Any Challenges You Encountered in Progressing Towards This Objective

Challenges still persist within curriculum approval process, but progress has been made. Main challenge is while campus administration continues to push for expanded agriculture pathways, there has been little support for resources and new hires in order to accomplish this expansion .

Resource Requests

Resource Request Status

Active

Request Year

2022-2023

Resource Request Title (First 3 letters of Program Name+2-digit Year + 2-digit Request Number)

AGR2201

Description of Resource Request

Full Time Faculty for Plant Science

Estimated Cost

75000

Type

Full-time Faculty

New/Replacement

New

Priority

02

Primary Contact For This Resource Request

Dorothy Farias or Felicia Duenas

Administrator, Faculty, or Staff Request**Please provide a detailed justification as to why this position is needed.**

With continued expansion of the Agriculture pathways, a full time faculty member is needed to lead and oversee the Plant Science program, as currently there are only 2 full time faculty members in AG, with 1 dedicated solely to Vet Tech, and the other handling all 4 remaining pathways (AG Bus, Food Safety, Plant Science, and Ag Supervisor). In order for the program to succeed and grow, there needs to be more F/T faculty dedicated to courses, curriculum development, industry outreach and student support. This request is critical and vital for the continued existence of the Plant Science program, as well as the incoming Pest Control Advisor COA pathway. With a full time faculty in plant science, we can offer 5 courses per term, instead of just 2, and can potentially have enrollments of nearly 200 students per semester, as plant science courses regularly fill with a wait list.

Equipment, Technology, or Facilities Request**Resource Requests****Resource Request Status**

Active

Request Year

2021-2022

Resource Request Title (First 3 letters of Program Name+2-digit Year + 2-digit Request Number)

AG2104

Description of Resource Request

Request for 2 Part Time ILTs (at 40% each) to serve growing Veterinary Technology program and meet accreditation requirements for student:faculty/staff ratio of 8:1 in all lab classes.

Estimated Cost

\$60,000

Type

Staff

Priority

03

Primary Contact For This Resource Request

Dorothy Farias or Jill Llm

Administrator, Faculty, or Staff Request
Equipment, Technology, or Facilities Request
Resource Requests

Resource Request Status

Active

Request Year

2018-2019

Resource Request Title (First 3 letters of Program Name+2-digit Year + 2-digit Request Number)

AG1804

Description of Resource Request

Purchase of department van to travel with students for conferences, tours, etc. Increase student awareness and comprehension of career opportunities within California agriculture. Improve upon and continue to offer regional field trips that allow students to explore the various sectors of the agriculture industries and stakeholders throughout the food supply chain.

Estimated Cost

\$40000

Type

Other (Not Prioritized)

New/Replacement

New

Previously Requested in Year(s)

2018-2019

Priority

05

Administrator, Faculty, or Staff Request

Equipment, Technology, or Facilities Request

Objective

3-Year Objective

Construct/Remodel/Enlarge/Incorporate existing campus facilities to make available for Agriculture and Agriculture Laboratory classes. Construct

What specific actions will you take to meet this objective?

Use existing buildings, that have been remodeled to accommodate agriculture classes and laboratories. Construct or install greenhouse and hoop house structures near the Agriculture classroom space(s) on campus to be used for experiential and hands on instruction in Plant Science courses, with the goal of creating project spaces for courses in plant science, food safety, ag business and water science.

Which of the following Educational Master Plan Goals does this objective align with?

Goal 2: Increase our community's access to transfer, workforce preparation, and basic skills education, Goal 1: Increase the success of our students while closing equity gaps, Goal 5: Effectively manage campus resources to meet student and community needs

Which of the following Student Equity Plan Goals does this objective align with?

Goal 1: Access and Successful Enrollment, Goal 4: Transfer, Goal 5: Degree/Certificate Completion, Goal 3: Completion of Transfer-Level English and Math

Review Type

Comprehensive

Program Review Cycle

2022 - 2025

Objective Status

Active

Completion Date

06/30/2025

Year 2: Describe Progress Made Towards Objective

Have assessed facilities in need of renovation and determined priorities. Orchard was completely renovated and replanted with all costs and labor for project secured through donor funding.

Year 2: Discuss Any Challenges You Encountered in Progressing Towards This Objective.

Challenges included lack of campus assistance and support for projects - barriers to completion due to factors outside of program control. Discussion among programs regarding conflicting views on how space should be used.

Year 3: Describe Progress Made Towards This Objective

Funds allocated to organize and update materials in ECT classroom for Plant Science. Working with East Campus and Ohana Pet Hospital for construction of Vet Tech lab/classroom space. Organized shed and storage facilities for Ag supplies near ECT.

Year 3: Discuss Any Challenges You Encountered in Progressing Towards This Objective

Challenges continue to include lack of campus assistance and support for projects - barriers to completion due to factors outside of program control. Continued discussion among programs regarding conflicting views on how space should be used. Lack of resources continues to be biggest barrier, particularly faculty resources (only 2 F/T faculty for 5 pathways, with 1 of those faculty solely for Vet Tech). Likewise, lack of funding for infrastructure renovation to allow for construction of new Greenhouse and Hoop house structures. Industry collaboration is waning due to lack of follow through on campus admin side, as well as unnecessary delays/bureaucracy

Resource Requests**Resource Request Status**

Active

Request Year

2022-2023

Resource Request Title (First 3 letters of Program Name+2-digit Year + 2-digit Request Number)

AG2101

Description of Resource Request

Installation of Greenhouse and Hoop House structures in designated areas as agreed to and decided with M & O, FOG and Admin. Greenhouse and Hoop house materials were to have been donated to program from industry, but lack of response from admin forced program to lose the donation and now seek funding for structures elsewhere. Need connection to water source, electricity and interior light installation.

(Note: ADA walkways to these structures was approved under Program Review from AY 20-21)

Estimated Cost

\$15,000 - \$60,000

Type

Facilities

New/Replacement

New

Previously Requested in Year(s)

2021-2022

Priority

01

Primary Contact For This Resource Request

Dorothy M Farias or Dee Vega

Related Documents[ECT Grounds \(Final\).pdf](#)[ECT Grounds _ Site Prep & Tree Removal Locations \(pdf\).pdf](#)**Administrator, Faculty, or Staff Request****Equipment, Technology, or Facilities Request****Pirate's Code**

Colusa

Please explain how critical this request is to your program's goals.

This request is essential for the viability and success of the AG program, particularly for Plant Science, Ag Business and Food Safety pathways. Without the necessary teaching/lab facilities, we cannot properly prepare students for real-world scenarios in AG. Likewise, the college promised the local Ag industry partners that with their investment in the Avocado Orchard, (which was fully funded by outside donors), the campus would also undertake the funding and development of adequate teaching/lab facilities, and has yet to do so.

How many students will be impacted by this request?

Virtually all students taking any Plant Science or Ag Business class will have access to and be impacted by these teaching areas.

What, if any, ongoing maintenance and licensing costs will your request require?

All ongoing maintenance will be provided through CE division and department funds (Strong Workforce) as well as full time ILT's job duties.

Have you identified funding sources to cover ongoing costs?

Yes

How will this resource improve the current learning environment, campus services, or operating conditions on campus?

These teaching labs will enhance learning in all Plant science and AG business courses, as well as influence content in some Food safety and Ag field supervisor courses.

Resource Requests**Resource Request Status**

Active

Request Year

2022-2023

Resource Request Title (First 3 letters of Program Name+2-digit Year + 2-digit Request Number)

AGR2202

Description of Resource Request

Fencing around raised garden beds in ECT lab area

Estimated Cost

10,000

Type

Facilities

New/Replacement

New

Previously Requested in Year(s)

2021-2022

Priority

04

Primary Contact For This Resource Request

Dorothy Farias or Dee Vega

Related Documents

[FenceFactory_Garden Bed Area Proposal.pdf](#)

Administrator, Faculty, or Staff Request

Equipment, Technology, or Facilities Request

Pirate's Code

Brazoria

Please explain how critical this request is to your program's goals.

Necessary to have protection surrounding raised garden beds, from pests as well as theft from general public wandering unauthorized into teaching areas/spaces

How many students will be impacted by this request?

Every student in all Plant Science courses (up to 100 students/semester) as well as Ag Business courses (50+students/semester).

What, if any, ongoing maintenance and licensing costs will your request require?

Costs will be covered by department funds, industry collaboration/donations as well as ILT duties

Have you identified funding sources to cover ongoing costs?

Yes (CE strong workforce)

How will this resource improve the current learning environment, campus services, or operating conditions on campus?

Necessary to provide adequate teaching/instruction and applied learning in plant science and Ag business pathways.

Objective

3-Year Objective

Ag Courses - Lab Equipment

What specific actions will you take to meet this objective?

Increase student learning by having appropriate tools, equipment and apparatus for course specific labs.

Which of the following Educational Master Plan Goals does this objective align with?

Goal 1: Increase the success of our students while closing equity gaps, Goal 2: Increase our community's access to transfer, workforce preparation, and basic skills education, Goal 5: Effectively manage campus resources to meet student and community needs, Goal 3: Strengthen local/regional partnerships and community engagement

Which of the following Student Equity Plan Goals does this objective align with?

Goal 1: Access and Successful Enrollment, Goal 4: Transfer, Goal 5: Degree/Certificate Completion

Review Type

Comprehensive

Program Review Cycle

2022 - 2025

Objective Status

Active

Completion Date

06/30/2025

Year 2: Describe Progress Made Towards Objective

Purchased tools and equipment for use primarily in plant science lab courses

Year 2: Discuss Any Challenges You Encountered in Progressing Towards This Objective.

Numerous tools/equipment were not delivered/lost/went missing. Had to reorder a second time and numerous issues occurred in gaining access to information detailing what was ordered based on what was requested, and what was actually delivered, and where the items physically were located.

Year 3: Describe Progress Made Towards This Objective

Tools and equipment have been re-ordered and inventoried, with a system to hopefully ensure they do not go missing again. Likewise, return of Ag program tractor from M & O accomplished, which has been essential in the upkeep and maintenance of the avocado orchard. Still need site preparation in order to construct new greenhouse and hoop house structures, as well as relocate raised garden beds from orchard to garden area, and fence in separately to prevent theft and control pests. Additional machinery needed includes another tractor, more capable than current equipment to effectively maintain entire ECT garden and orchard area.

Year 3: Discuss Any Challenges You Encountered in Progressing Towards This Objective

Continued lack of support and resources from administration in order to effectively supply necessary equipment and site preparations.

Resource Requests

Resource Request Status

Active

Request Year

2022-2023

Resource Request Title (First 3 letters of Program Name+2-digit Year + 2-digit Request Number)

AGR2203

Description of Resource Request

Purchase a tractor to maintain avocado orchard

Estimated Cost

34,000

Type

Equipment

New/Replacement

New

Priority

04

Primary Contact For This Resource Request

Dorothy Farias or Dee Vega

Related Documents

[John Deere _ Proposal for Quote 27397428\[19107\].pdf](#)

Administrator, Faculty, or Staff Request

Equipment, Technology, or Facilities Request

Please explain how critical this request is to your program's goals.

Necessary for proper upkeep and maintenance of ECT garden and orchard areas

How many students will be impacted by this request?

All students in Plant Science courses (~100/semester) will benefit from properly maintained lab grounds

What, if any, ongoing maintenance and licensing costs will your request require?

ongoing costs will be covered by CE division and department funds

Have you identified funding sources to cover ongoing costs?

Yes (strong workforce)

How will this resource improve the current learning environment, campus services, or operating conditions on campus?

By providing state of the art growing facilities that are maintained with the correct equipment, we can excel in offering our students a premier learning experience in agriculture courses/labs.

Objective

3-Year Objective

CSLO, PSLO and ISLO Development

What specific actions will you take to meet this objective?

Will write new CSLOs and PSLOs new courses and programs for the AG program, as well as assess existing CSLOs and PSLOs.

Review Type

Comprehensive

Objective Status

Active

Completion Date

05/18/2022

Year 2: Describe Progress Made Towards Objective

Currently working with state sector navigator in AG to determine consensus among all state CC AG programs for SLOs. Completed initial analysis of Ag Business discipline. Beginning work on Plant Science in AY 20-21

Year 2: Discuss Any Challenges You Encountered in Progressing Towards This Objective.

Time to meet and coordinate with counterparts are other CC campuses/programs