



Office of the President

Tuesday, March 5, 2024
Ty Gardner, Department Chair
Life Sciences

Dear Ty,

Thank you for all the work you put into completing your comprehensive program review. It has been reviewed by the College Planning Committee and the Executive Team. The College Planning Committee feedback is attached. Below, you will find comments, commendations, and recommendations from the Executive Team. These are provided for incorporation into your annual program planning processes. Typically, recommendations require planning improvements that will be implemented over time. Thus, in your subsequent annual mini-reviews, you'll want to provide updates on progress made towards addressing these recommendations.

Comments:

Life Sciences provides a mix of courses (anatomy, physiology, biology, and microbiology) that serve biology major students, pre-allied health students, and general education science requirements. Recent expansion to VCEC has added additional labs and scheduling flexibility to meet student needs. Similar to other disciplines, enrollment FTES have declined year over year since the pandemic. Fall and most likely spring enrollments figures are trending higher.

Commendations:

1. Demand for life science classes is high, particularly gateway classes into allied health.
2. Hispanic students' enrollment in Life Sciences is higher (70.4%) than the college average of (61.8%)
3. Student course success is higher in life sciences compared to the VC overall.
4. CSU/UC transfers in Life Sciences are higher than overall VC rates.
5. The majority of Life Sciences full-time faculty have completed the Humanizing STEM Program.

Recommendations:

1. An increase in lab capacity is needed to meet the high student enrollment demands.
2. Explore and implement strategies to support male students in life sciences, as their degree/certificate completion rates are considerably lower than their female counterparts.
3. Continue to analyze equity data and develop strategies to close the identified ethnicity and gender gaps.

Ventura College will be a beacon of learning — a source of inspiration and guidance — for our students and community.

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4. Work with dean, VP of Business, and FMO director to explore/implement safety measures related to life sciences (e.g. change our Bunsen burners for the recommended micro-incinerators).
5. Pursue the chemical hygiene/safety measures endorsed by the Academic Senate in Resolution 2022-1.

CPC's overall recommendation is to **strengthen the program**, to which I concur. Thank you again for your dedicated work in improving outcomes for our students.

Sincerely,



Kimberly Hoffmans, R.N., Ed.D.

President

Ventura College

cc: Aaron Jones, Dean of Student Learning
Jennifer Kalfsbeek-Goetz, Vice President, Academic Affairs

Default Report

CPC Program Review Feedback Form - Life Sciences

February 6, 2024 9:45 AM PST

Q2 - What is this program doing well?

What is this program doing well?

Serving student needs

The program is in high demand for students that need to fulfill their general education requirements for healthcare/engineering fields

enrollment, equity gaps, requesting equipment and asking where those requests go and how to follow up with them

High enrollment in ANAT courses, looking to expand current offerings and meet unmet need,

Enrollments in Anatomy class.

Q3 - What could this program improve upon?

What could this program improve upon?

Need allocations for equipment upgrades

The program could improve by upgrading the facilities here at Ventura College and increasing pay for lab courses.

able to service unmet enrollment needs

This program may benefit from reevaluating existing salary schedules and asking Board of Trustees and administration to seek remediation to avoid further disagreements and disgruntled faculty as a result of low-pay.

Budget to allocate for lab facilities and/or items needed for class.

Q6 - How well do the program's objectives align with the VC Educational Master Plan?

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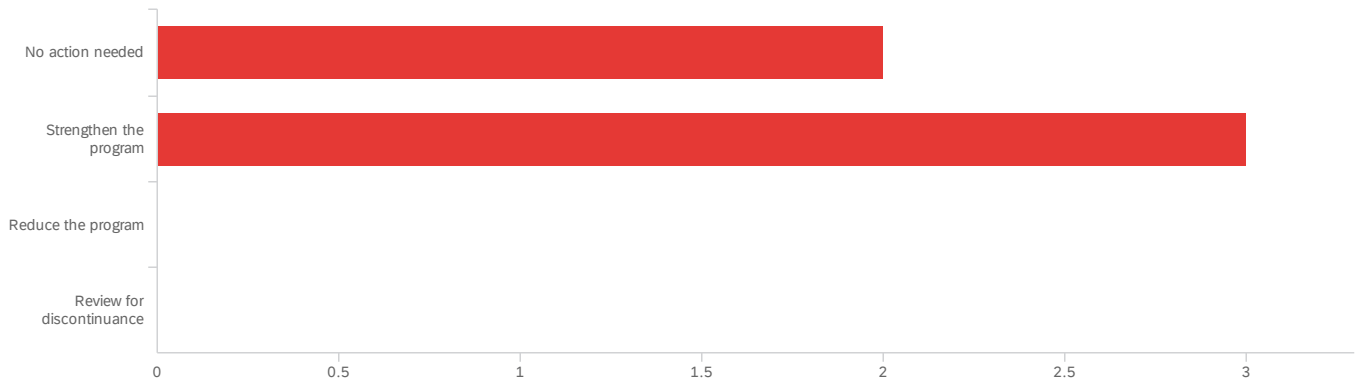
Aligns with Goals 1 and 2.

The objectives align with the EMP by increasing availability and access of courses to students.

align

This program aligns well to EMP, however, I believe they would benefit from increased support from administration to support them with salary negotiations, sense of belonging, and to help avoid faculty turnover.

Q8 - I recommend the following course of action for this program:



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	I recommend the following course of action for this program:	1.00	2.00	1.60	0.49	0.24	5

#	Field	Choice Count
1	No action needed	40.00% 2
2	Strengthen the program	60.00% 3
3	Reduce the program	0.00% 0
4	Review for discontinuance	0.00% 0

5

Showing rows 1 - 5 of 5

End of Report