**2016 PROGRAM REVIEW**

*Western Nevada College*

*Bachelor of Technology as reviewed, now Bacherlor of Science ,* *Construction Management*

1. **Description of Program reviewed**

The Bachelor of Technology in Construction offers associate degree students, new students and skilled workers an educational route toward a career as a construction manager or supervisor. The 120-credit program combines knowledge in construction methods, planning and project management with business and supervisory skills. This program allows those who have completed an associate degree in construction technology to progress academically and earn a bachelor’s degree. It also allows those already working in the construction field to enroll in an applicable baccalaureate degree program and expand career advancement possibilities. Approval has been granted to change the name of the program from a Bachelor of Technology to a Bachelor of Applied Science because of the concentration of applied processes associated with construction management.

This 120-credit program includes:

• 12-credits in Business and Management course requirements

• 60-credits in Construction course requirements

• 48-credits in General Education requirements

1. **Review Process and Criteria**

Program review is a collaborative effort led by academic division staff and a program review team of academic faculty. The process involves both internal and external reviewers, a student panel, and faculty and staff. During the program review process, five years of assessment data and reports are collected and submitted as part of the program review. Ultimately, the benefit to a program undergoing review is directly related to the seriousness with which the process is approached. Program faculty who spend time clarifying the issues, developing their assessment plans and self-study, and focusing on implementing the resulting recommendations experience the most improvement and benefit.

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

1. One of the major problems the reviewers determined after reviewing the data was that there needs to be a standard eight semester course schedule that would allow students to complete the program in a timely manner. Records show that some courses were repeated semester to semester, some courses were not offered or available to students which makes it difficult to complete the program in a timely manner. Now that all the necessary course changes have been either approved or are waiting approval a set eight semester plan will be presented in the 2016-2017 catalog. Students will be able to complete the program requirements in a four year span if they choose to do so.

2. After reviewing the necessary data required to develop a program review some changes need to be made in the record keeping and data collection processes. In the future the construction department will be establishing set in house type of student and program evaluations to provide additional data that could not be located during the review process. We understand that the campus has recently addressed this problem but our program is the only four year program being offered so we need some additional data that others may not deem necessary or relevant.

3. Another problem that was recognizable was the lack of continuity between the course requirements for the two year program and those required for the four year degree. With the assistance from the programs advisory board members, external educators from other Nevada college programs, and the faculty and staff from WNC the two year program is now considered a strong foundation for those students interested in continuing into the four year program. The additional changes to the four year degree have been developed and submitted and will align towards more management fundamentals than trade skills.

4. To increase interest and enrollment in the current program there needs to be an established marketing plan. The campus needs to be spreading the word about CTE opportunities every week not just every now and then when special events or activities are being offered. Preferably an annual marketing plan should be prepared with the involvement of the marketing department, CTE Director and the related faculty and staff associated with the individual programs.

5. Another weakness the reviewers discovered was the low enrollment numbers throughout the programs history. There could be several reasons that could be discussed relating to the lack of interest in the program but the reviewers decided on focusing on the future not the past. The only way this program will survive in the future is to generate more interest in it. Some of the ways the current faculty and staff have initiated change is establishing a strong partnership with various industry related professional organizations. These new relationships generated interest from their related members to become a part of the program’s advisory board. The new partners understand that we are here to support their workforce needs and listen to their concerns and make the necessary changes to improve the curriculum to address those concerns.

The program also has a new pathway that once implemented should generate more interest. Recently, a “C” track Jumpstart program was developed to entice local high school students and others in the community an opportunity to earn dual credits and national certifications upon completion. The academy is tied directly to the two year program so if we can get the numbers up in the academy program logic suggest interest will increase in the other programs.

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

There are significant changes that need to be made to the current BT program to fit the needs of the construction industry:

• Developing the AAS curriculum to fit the fundamental needs of students enrolling into the four year program.

• Increasing the number of relevant business and management courses required for the degree.

• The lack of relevant business courses required for the program.

• Eliminating duplicate courses and structuring the program requirements more towards management than engineering.

• Providing competent adjunct instructors in courses that previously were filled by individuals filling voids in the schedule without the necessary knowledge or skill sets to cover the subject matter in the correct way.

• Student learning outcomes need to be expanded to include leadership and team building and management requirements associated with construction management.

• Program student learning outcomes need to align with institutional and/or general education student learning outcomes.

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

2015-16 33

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

2013-14 11

2014-15 2

2015-16 5

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

Fall 2015 60

***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:**

submitting separately (weblink or submitting separately)