Automotive Collision

Program Strengths and Accomplishments
Enrollment in the Cypress College Automotive Collision program has remained relatively stable over the past five years. The program supports the college commitment to relevant quality career/technical education by providing practical, personalized and value-priced instruction. The program has benefitted greatly from our significant connections to the Toyota corporation. Though this relationship will diminish due to the economic downturn and internal Toyota decisions, the quality of our program will remain high. Increased focus upon close monitoring of student progress has resulted in significant increases in certificate and degree attainment.

With projections in the job market indicating increased demand for qualified auto body technicians, placement of program graduates in positions with auto body shops will continue to be high.

Other Issues Facing the Department
The Automotive Collision program faces ongoing external pressure to maintain currency of process, technology and equipment. The emergence of new technologies, such as water-based paint, presents challenges in both training and equipment. Measuring equipment for damage analysis requires increasingly sophisticated equipment and training. Damage appraisal has evolved from manual, handwritten estimates to entirely electronic analysis, requiring student laptop stations.

Vehicle storage capacity remains a pressing issue for all of our automotive programs. Collaboration amongst programs and with college facilities personnel will be necessary to effectively manage project automobile flow.

Goals/Action Plans for the Next Three Years
• Increase percent of contract for clerical support position from 50% to 100%.
• Finalize the transition to compliant water-based materials.
• Procure new damage analysis measurement system.
• Purchase 10 computers for the expansion of the computer lab, the refinish lab and the metal working lab.
• Identify and acquire additional support from the local business community.
• Identify opportunities to provide our facility in support of industry training activities.