Economics

Program Strengths and Accomplishments
In meeting student educational/occupational goals, the department has partnered with the Business/CIS Division in offering a new Business Economics Certificate. They have also introduced “online”, “web-enhanced” courses and Supplemental Instruction to address student needs. The faculty is to be commended for their participation on college committees, district committees and community organizations. There has been a slight decrease in enrollment; however, this parallels the enrollment pattern of the college in general. Student course completion and retention rates have improved and students survey results indicate they are generally pleased with the instruction they receive.

Other Issues Facing the Department
The faculty has identified a need for Economics tutors. Through the One Time Budget Request process funds for tutoring have been increased for the 2007-2008 academic year, which included funding for tutors in Economics. The department also identified a concern for maintaining a cleaner environment in the Humanities Building. It is suggested that the Dean contact the Director of Maintenance and Operations and/or Vice President to address this issue. The faculty is encouraged to continue their participation in the process of developing Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment.

Goals/Action Plans for the Next Three Years
• Increase course completion rates to 60% by spring 2009
• Develop AA degree for Economics
• Install H-ITT base units to record student responses
• Increase the number of “smart” classrooms by 2 for web-enhanced classes
• Replace one full-time position to replace faculty retirement