Human Services

Program Strengths and Accomplishments
The Human Services program supports those entering or seeking to improve their skills in the helping professions. We serve students who have faced serious challenges in their own personal lives, providing understanding, guidance and direction. Program enrollments have stabilized after a period of declining demand that can be attributed to changes in statutory educational requirements for those seeking to satisfy requirements for Alcohol and Other Drug Counselor credentialing. Success and retention rates remain at consistently high levels, indicating the commitment of program faculty to student achievement.

The Human Services program has cultivated strong community connections, including the utilization of off-campus facilities in Santa Ana. We intend to expand such connections by offering classes in the Orange County Social Services Association’s Anaheim facility.

Other Issues Facing the Department
Stabilization and consistency in the state certification process is necessary before we can develop effective educational strategies to help students meet requirements in this field. The state and private associations continue to debate strategies on the best course of action needed for students to acquire certification for Alcohol and Drug Counselor. Once these issues are resolved, the program will be required to develop courses and program plans in accord with certification requirements.

Goals/Action Plans for the Next Three Years
- Develop and implement effective marketing and outreach strategies, including updating the program brochure.
- Hire a full-time tenure track faculty position, replacing the vacancy caused by retirement.
- Develop a two-year calendar/schedule of Human Services classes to assist students in meeting certificate/degree requirements.
- Increase the number of courses offered in a distance education format.
- As regulations stabilize, increase the number of certificates and degrees awarded to our students.