Mortuary Science

Program Strengths and Accomplishments
The Mortuary Science Program is one of two located in California. Since the last Instructional Quality Review the program was awarded reaccredidation for another seven years. The program has gone through major curricular changes and class size reductions, dictated by accreditation standards, which in the short run may have affected student enrollment. Student success and retention rates still remain at a high level. Student surveys also indicate a high level of satisfaction with the instruction they receive. The department has an excellent and supportive Advisory Committee, which provides direction for the instructional program. Several of the participating funeral homes also provide students with the opportunity to participate in a “work study” program, which may also be access to future employment.

Other Issues Facing the Department
The faculty has identified a need for additional clerical support for the department and a laboratory technician for the lab courses. As campus personnel funds become available, it is suggested the department faculty continue to channel these requests through the appropriate campus committees. The department has been successful in receiving additional funds for equipment through the One Time Budget Request Process. This is the appropriate avenue for Divisions/departments to request additional funds for new/replacement equipment. If equipment needs to be repaired and funding is not available in the Division/department, an emergency request should be submitted to the campus Planning and Budget Committee. 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
• To replace two embalming pump machines
• Increase part time clerical position to a full time Administrative 1 position
• Increase part time clerical position to a full time clinical laboratory instructor
• Increase advertising/promotion of program