Mortuary Sciences

Program Strengths and Accomplishments

The Mortuary Sciences program is recognized regionally and nationally for quality instruction and responsiveness to industry needs. Our students are typically placed for employment prior to their graduation from the program. By providing consistent scheduling of classes necessary for the attainment of program completion, student achievement rates remain very high, with success and retention rates far exceeding college averages.

The Mortuary Sciences program maintains significant and productive relations with the local community, working collaboratively with our Advisory Committee and individual mortuaries to address industry needs and requirements. These relationships are critical to the ongoing development of our students as they collaborate with local businesses in the development of the academic, technical and personal skills necessary for success in this demanding field.

Other Issues Facing the Department

Maintenance of effective pathways to successful program completion presents a significant challenge during these difficult economic times. Scheduling patterns that served students in the past demand re-examination as we explore ways to provide appropriate sequencing while addressing the need to become more focused and productive in our use of resources. Equipment needs are critical as we move ahead, the procurement of a van to adequately support the transportation of cadavers to and from the college. Upon this procurement depends our ability to become more efficient in the delivery of instructional services.

Goals/Action Plans for the Next Three Years

- Increase percent of contract for part time administrative support to reflect the 12 month operational needs of the program.
- Establish a classified position to support instruction in the Restorative Arts lab.
- Develop and implement an effective marketing and outreach strategy, including effective advertising to attract quality students to the program.
- Obtain a new removal van: The current van limits the number of human remains that can be transported below the level the program can sustain.