Nursing

Program Strengths and Accomplishments
In order to respond to State and National shortage of nurses, the Division Dean, Director of Nursing and department faculty are to be commended for their efforts in pursuing Federal and State grants to expand the Nursing Program and increase the number of students admitted into the program. Even though the number of students admitted into the program has increased so has the number of under prepared students; however, course completion and student retention rates are in the high eighty percentile, which is excellent. As part of the Nursing Program, to assist students achieve their goals, the faculty added a tutoring and mentoring component.

Other Issues Facing the Department
The program is continually challenged by changes in regulations, program requirements, expansion of clinical sites and finding adjunct faculty to teach. To meet some of these challenges, the faculty is encouraged to continue their efforts in applying for grants because they allow some flexibility in staffing and provide additional support in addressing some of the issues. The department has been successful in receiving additional funding through the campus One Time Budget Request process; they are encouraged to continue submitting requests. Over the last four years, depending on the availability of campus funds, the college also allocated an additional $5K - $8.5K to meet Division/department needs. The department has also identified a need for additional clerical support. For the 2007-2008 academic year the campus has provided additional clerical assistance by extending the work year for one of the support staff in the office. If additional assistance is needed in this area, it is suggested that the appropriate campus channels be used to make this request. 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
• Double the size of the R.N. program to educate more nurses for the community
• Develop orientation and mentoring plan for new faculty
• Adopt nursing program courses and clinical settings for changes in health care industry and community needs
• Develop plans for implementing SB1309 requirements