Nursing

Program Strengths and Accomplishments
The Cypress College Nursing program is recognized regionally and nationally for excellence, producing student achievement rates consistently above the national average for students taking the NCLEX-RN licensure exam. The program attracts significantly more students each enrollment period than the program can accommodate. Enrollment and graduation numbers reflect a trend of improvement consistent with program initiatives to support student success. The Nursing program has benefitted from the college commitment to the maintenance of a high-quality program, including the instructional staff. That commitment is reflected in the hiring of full-time faculty replacements as senior faculty members have retired.

Utilizing a well conceived strategy of program renewal utilizing both internal and external resources, the program has been successful in establishing and maintaining an ongoing cycle of curriculum and equipment renewal. Effective program connections with the local health care community provide our students, under the supervision and guidance of program faculty, with the clinical practice necessary for their academic and technical development.

Other Issues Facing the Department
The quality of the program provides ample marketing. We are unable to meet the demand for program access reflected in our application numbers. Though state and federal grants have helped us to maintain program quality and to increase the number of applicants accepted each cycle into the program, this represents an unstable base of funding that precludes long range planning. Program access numbers grow and decline in proportion to the availability of nursing grants awarded to the college.

Goals/Action Plans for the Next Three Years
• Complete all department SLO/CATS reports; develop program SLO/CATS; complete SLO/CATS loops.
• Procure equitable compensation for Nursing faculty in the performance of clinical duties.
• Prepare self study for 2010 NLNAC accreditation visit. Prepare for and successfully complete BRN accreditation.
• Plan and prepare for transition to 16 week calendar if/when implemented by the district.
• Procure patient simulator software; Integrate the patient simulator into all primary nursing course curricula.
• Maintain student data base; procure permanent funding for the mentor/tutor program.
• Replace all retiring faculty with permanent full-time replacements.
• Obtain ongoing, full-time classified support for the Nursing program.

7/9/2008