Program Review - Veterinary Technician

Prepared by: Louann Waldner

What are the strengths of your area?:
1) The program has facilities set-up for a Veterinary Technician program.
2) The program can offer a Veterinary Assisting program that will allow students courses that work toward a degree.

What improvements are needed?:
1) The Veterinary Technician program is not accredited through AVMA.
2) Need a pool of dedicated adjuncts and a dedicated District budget to run the program.
3) Need the Vet Assisting program approved through the curriculum process so that recruitment can be effective and the certificate included in the Catalog.
4) Need to create a pipeline of students that have the basic skills necessary to pass the rigor of the required courses and prerequisites.

Describe any external opportunities or challenges:
1) The current pool of students do not have the basic skills necessary to deal with the rigor of the curriculum. Recruitment and counseling of students will be required to keep them moving as a cohorted program big enough to justify the courses being conducted.
2) The program is not connected to the courses of the Ag Division. As a result, the program is stand-alone in that it was not designed to allow students to take multiple courses related to the animal agriculture pathway.
3) There is a large pool of students interested in veterinary pathways.
4) There are needs and opportunities for students in this pathway, but the need is in more urban areas.

Overall Outcome Achievement: The success rate of students in classes has been at 65%. The data is limited due to the limited number of times the classes have been offered.

Changes based on outcome achievement: The VT 109 is being offered this semester and will be evaluated by the current instructor. Informal reflection by the instructor leads us to believe that students need to gain greater understanding of the industry through partnering with local veterinary offices for tours and work shadow programs.

Action: Improve FTE to adjunct ratio

Increase percent of full time faculty teaching the courses

Implementation Timeline: 2015 - 2016
Start Date: 10/15/2015
Completion Date: 11/16/2015
Status: New Action

Identify related course/program outcomes:
- SLO: Student's successful assistance will be measured by a critique from a veterinarian after the examination is completed.
- SLO: Students will be able to explain principles of drug interaction, safety and efficacy in order to contribute toward rational veterinary therapy.
- SLO: Given a veterinary patient, students will be able to complete the admission protocols, including admitting, initiating a patient record, identifying the species and breed of the client, and recognizing potential veterinary emergency characteristics. Students will demonstrate protocols at a level that is industry standard.

Person(s) Responsible (Name and Position):
Louann Waldner

Rationale (With supporting data):
Resource is required in order to meet the requirements of the AVMA and in order for the program to grow.

PLO: Students will be able to discuss issues affecting consumer awareness of animal welfare, health and the environment. Students will be tested on their knowledge of current issues as outlined by Federal and State requirements.

Priority: Medium
Safety Issue: No
External Mandate: Yes