College: Hawai`i Community College

Program: Early Childhood Education

Check All Credentials Offered

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College Mission Statement (or provide link)
Hawai`i Community College promotes student learning by embracing our unique Hawai`i Island culture and inspiring growth in the spirit of “E `Imi Pono”. Aligned with the UH Community Colleges system’s mission, we are committed to serving all segments of our Hawai`i Island community.

Program Mission Statement (or provide link)
The mission of the Community Colleges of the University of Hawai`i system with regard to early childhood education is twofold:

To provide training and education programs for the development of competent and nurturing caregivers and teachers for all Hawai`i's young children and their families.

To provide quality education and care services for the children of students, faculty and staff in the Community Colleges. These services will represent the best of current practices and will serve as a practicum for programs related to early childhood education as well as providing demonstration of quality education and care for the larger community.

OVERALL PROGRAM HEALTH (Check one)

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Part II. Analysis of the Program (strengths and weaknesses in terms of demand, efficiency, and effectiveness based on an analysis of the data)
The data for the program continues to be strong and consistent. Though numbers of majors, SSH’s and average class size are smaller, the number of graduates remains strong. Class enrollments were lower in 2006-2007 and this impacts smaller classes, class fit, and cost. It is difficult to know why enrollments were unusually low. Our lab and practicum courses retain a cap of 10 students. The data for transfer rate is incorrect, yet the process for capturing this data is under review.

Both early childhood faculty members have had reassigned time for Department
Chair and coordination of the program and the PACE outreach program. This impacts the data, yet the program continues to operate effectively and efficiently.

Strengths:
- The curriculum and program were completely updated and implemented in the Fall of 2006, with statewide participation for articulation.
- The program is recently articulated with a new Bachelor’s Degree at UH West Oahu. (Bachelor’s in Social Science with a concentration in Early Childhood)
- Children’s Center is nationally accredited by NAEYC thru 2011
- PACE non-credit to credit component of the program continues steady offering courses in Kona, Waimea, and Hilo.

Weaknesses:
- Outreach delivery continues to be challenging

**Significant Program Actions (new certificates, stop-out; gain/loss of positions, results of prior year’s action plan)**
- UH West Oahu articulation agreement through 2008-2009 is complete
- West Hawaii Needs Assessment is complete and outreach scheduling and planning is using the information gathered.
- Research continues on assessment strategies
- Professional Portfolio is in design and Perkins funded two new student computers with specialized software to assist with portfolios.
- Child Portfolio’s have been updated

**Part III. Action Plan**
- First online class delivered Spring 2008 and second class Fall 2008
- New scheduling of West Hawai`i (outreach) delivery
- New PACE course added and delivered Spring 2008 – ED 152
- Implementation of Rubric evaluation for activity plans within curriculum classes
- Continue development of Professional Portfolios and Program Outcome Assessment Strategies

**Part IV. Resource Implications (physical, human, financial)**
- A half time to full time early childhood faculty member is needed for West Hawai`i and outreach.
- Training for all faculty, technology and technical support will be needed to grow distance education and outreach.
- A Children’ Center must be included in any new UH-West Hawai`i – Kona Center.
Fiscal resources must be made available for the Children’s Center to retain their National Accreditation and the Early Childhood Education Program to obtain and retain National Accreditation now available.
Posted to College website at:
AY 2007 Completed Reviews