1. Program or Unit Description

Program or Unit Mission or Purpose Statement

This program prepares students for employment in government service, agribusiness, horticulture, livestock, flowers and foliage, landscape, macadamia nuts, papaya, and coffee industries.

What is the target student or service population?

Hawaii Community College is a 2-year institution targeting students who are interested in the Agricultural field.

2. Analysis of the Program/Unit

Discuss the Program’s or Unit’s strengths and areas to improve in terms of Demand, Efficiency, and Effectiveness based on an analysis of the program’s Quantitative Indicators or comparable unit-developed measures or program-developed metrics. Include a discussion of relevant historical-trend data on key measures (i.e., last three years).

Discuss significant program or unit actions (new certificate(s), stop outs, gain/loss of position(s), results of prior year’s action plan, etc.). Include external factors affecting the program or unit.

Instructional programs must include ARPD health indicators with benchmarks to provide a quick view on the overall condition of the program; CTE programs must include an analysis of Perkins Core indicators for which the program did not meet the performance level.

[insert ARPD data table, if available; else, insert unit or program specific data used for review]

Demand Indicators

Healthy score. All indications seem to point to high demand for highly skilled AG graduates. The replacement position numbers do not reflect entrepreneurial opportunities that many students would like to pursue. Also, the CIP/SOC codes may not reflect workforce opportunities with smaller private companies. The actual current job opportunities are very good in the County and State of Hawaii.

Efficiency Indicators

Healthy score. Our fill rate averaged out to 99%. We continue to allow students to enroll over the class limit due to the high interest in agriculture. Agriculture interest seems to be on the rise. If our fill rate continues to exceed capacity, we may need to start a new cohort and seek another faculty position.
Effectiveness Indicators

Cautionary score. Fall to Spring Persistence fell due to students discontinuing for various personal reasons. Although we were given a Cautionary Call, it will be impossible to increase our Unduplicated Degrees/Certificates Awarded. We do not have the physical space to grow the program and increase the capacity 5% every year. We believe that if a program cannot grow by 5% every year, it should be rated on a set ratio of Unduplicated Degrees/Certificates Awarded to Average Class Size.

Perkins Indicators

1P1 (Not Met) Very close to reaching the goal of 94.75 (92.86 actual) Missed by 1 student not achieving GPA.

2P1 (Not Met). Due to a mixed cohort only 4 graduates out of a class of 14 complete their degree. Will increase support and advising to help students navigate their academic pathway.

3P1 (Not Met). Only one student in the cohort decided to transfer and 4 students did not return for the next semester. Will continue to support students to stay on track to finish their AAS degree.

4P1 (Not Met). Out of 5 graduating students, 2 were picked up by the Unemployment Insurance Quarter. We are looking into an employment tracking system to track our graduates.

5P1 (Not Met). Very small nontraditional participation this year (2 students). Will continue to try to recruit more nontraditional students.

5P2 (Not Met) No nontraditional graduates this year.


3. Program Student Learning Outcomes or Unit/Service Outcomes

a) List of the Program Learning Outcomes
b) Program Student Learning Outcomes that have been assessed in the year of the Annual Review of Program Data.

c) Assessment Results
d) Changes that have been made as a result of the assessments.

a) Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs)
1. Plan and manage projects and cultivate horticultural crops using legal; sustainable; safe; and ecologically, biologically, and technologically sound practices.
2. Design gardens that demonstrate the aesthetic principles of unity, repetition, balance, color, and textures congruent with the customers’ desires.

3. Operate and maintain tools and equipment. Set-up and manage a business enterprise.

4. Set-up and manage a business enterprise.

5. Interact with customers and coworkers in ways that effectively support the work to be accomplished.

b) Program Student Learning Outcomes that have been assessed in the year of the Review.

PLOs #2 and #5 were assessed in Fall 2019 through the CLO-based assessment of AG 40/

The College suspended course assessments in Spring 2020 due to Covid 19 interruption of classes.

c) Assessment Results

The assessment results for the AG 40 Fall 2019 Initial assessment were very strong. Twelve of the fourteen students met standard on all Course Learning Outcomes. See the Campus Labs CLO results graph below.

AG Program
AY19-20 Assessment Results

KEY: Dark Green = Exceeds // Light Green = Meets // Orange = Partly Meets // Red = Does not Meet
d) Changes that have been made as a result of the assessments.

For AG 40, prior to the next time the course is taught, faculty will develop a new slide presentation that has current plants used in the industry.

4. Action Plan

*Based on findings in Parts 1-3, develop an action plan for your program or unit from now until your next Comprehensive Review date. Be sure to focus on areas to improve identified in ARPD data, student learning or unit/service outcomes, results of survey data, and other data used to assess your program or unit. This plan should guide your program/unit through to the next program/unit review cycle and must detail measurable outcomes, benchmarks and timelines. Include an analysis of progress in achieving planned improvements.*

*CTE programs must include specific action plans for any Perkins Core Indicator for which the program did not meet the performance level.*

Specify how the action plan aligns with the College’s Mission and Strategic Plan. Discuss how these recommendations for improvement or actions will guide your program or unit until the next Comprehensive Review. Be sure to list resources that will be required, if any, in section 5 below.

*The action plan may be amended based on new initiatives, updated data, or unforeseen external factors*

The Hawai‘i Community College Agriculture Program is seeking to secure its own farm lab, independent of the UH Hilo College of Agriculture Forestry and Natural Resource Management (CAFNRM). With the Manono Redevelopment Plan moving forward, we are also seeking to relocate our classrooms to the farm lab to eliminate costly commuting time between the classrooms and farm lab.

If the Hawai‘i CC Agriculture Program is able to secure its own land to develop a modern and efficient farm lab, we would double our student capacity and quadruple our growing area. This would lead to increased student enrollment and ultimately enhanced student learning. Another reason is we would like to fulfill part of our mission statement, by having livestock as part of the curriculum. Under the current agreement with UHH CAFNRM, we are not able to have livestock on the farm. Livestock has not been part of the curriculum for a number of years but with a new farm lab, we anticipate adding a Small Animal Production cohort to the AG Program.

On September 2019, Chancellor Rachel Solemsaas officially signed the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the University of Hawaii Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (UHCTAHR) to develop the Hawaii Community College Ag Farm Lab on 18 acres at the Waiakea Research Station. The planning and building stage for the farm lab will be a 3-to-5 year process if there are no major setbacks. We hope to have state of the art classrooms, greenhouses, restroom, and a food processing area, equipment and other necessary components with “green sustainability” as the theme for all of the items that are included for the farm lab. Having a new facility will bring a renewed excitement to student learning. We will be able to recruit effectively, keep students motivated and increase our retention. Our goal is to have a public friendly facility and facilitate tours for grades K-12 and
Action Item #1:

Initiate planning for farm structures such as a certified kitchen, a produce processing unit and a building to house these items, along with classrooms at the Farm Lab.

Plans could be made available within a year. As the plans are put into motion during AY 2021-2022 the facilities will be established and this will help improve student learning. There would be less commute time and more teaching time. Hands-on learning would be greatly increased due to the efficiency of the layout of the farm.

Benchmarks/Timeline: Develop project with legislators and administration, organize ATE collaborators and begin site-specific planning in AY 2021-2022. Completion of the project in AY 2024-2025. This project directly facilitates PLOs 1-5 for the agriculture program. Additionally, the College as a whole benefits from the physical results of this project as well as the inherent benefits of increased collaboration.

Action Item #2:

The hiring of a Farm Manager is a vital part of the program expansion. Unlike most other programs, the Ag program deals with live crops. These live crops are student projects that must be maintained (watered, fertilized, etc.). The instructor should be spending his non-teaching time developing the program, not maintaining the farm. With the assistance of a farm manager, the instructor can develop and fine-tune the program/curriculum so that the students can learn and attain the PLOs efficiently. This will enhance student learning by exposing students to a well thought out and planned curriculum provided by the instructor. Also, this would give the current APT more time for student support and other important things to enhance the agriculture program.

Action Item #3:

Equipment to run the farm will need to be included in the initial planning. We will have sole ownership of the new Hawai‘i Community College Ag Farm and will have to maintain all 18 acres that are utilized. A comprehensive equipment evaluation and need will have to be done in AY 2019-2020. The equipment request would directly support PLO 1 and 3.

5. Resource Implications

(Physical, human, financial)

Continued support to accomplish the ongoing Action Plan above. Otherwise, no additional resource requests at this time.