

**FIRST FOLLOW-UP REPORT:
A RECORD OF PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL
TO TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
The Associate of Aquaculture Degree, 9/25/09**

With input from the Cabinet, the President makes final approval of program review recommendations. This report articulates those decisions. Approval of task force recommendations requiring funds beyond the base budget of the reviewed unit is not tantamount to receipt of additional funds. Those funding requests must be channeled through the institutional budget process. Nonetheless, special consideration will be given to requests stemming from program review recommendations.

A progress report toward implementation of recommendations must be drafted one year following completion of the task force report by the chairperson. The report will be sent electronically to the Special Assistant to the President for Strategic Planning & Analysis for college-wide distribution and archiving. Recommendations not achieved within a year are to become "objectives" in the corresponding unit plan to ensure a continued focus on their achievement.

The President does not approve recommendation 2.B. It is deleted from the listing below. Recommendation 2.A now appears as recommendation #2. Modifications are made to recommendations #2 and 5 as indicated in ***bold and italics***. All remaining recommendations are accepted as presented by the task force.

Recommendations

Recommendation 1.

- A. Develop structural, policies, procedures, and assessment strategies to ensure that students are coded correctly for their program, thereby increasing enrollment rates by correcting program coding errors and increasing recruiting efforts for future Aquaculture students.
- B. Build a Faculty partnership with Student Services in concert with the steps that have already been taken to improve data accuracy with program coding practices (As seen in the Oct. 2007-3 Research and Analysis Report), including major restrictions and more aggressive program coding follow-up with students during registration process.

Recommendation 2. Explore ways in which SouthShore can assist in reducing the current commuting burden for students between the Ruskin lab and physical classes (reducing time/money spent traveling to complete the program).

Recommendation 3. Develop curricular course offerings specifically focused on the current practice of Recirculation science and green fisheries techniques.

Recommendation 4.

- A. Investigate the demand and need for the certificate program as relates to the current A.S. program.
- B. Determine how many of the current Aquaculture students meet the requirements to graduate with a CCC and push these graduations through. This will provide the Aquaculture program with correct data regarding graduation rates and program coding.

Recommendation 5. Investigate an articulation agreement between HCC/UF, HCC/USF, HCC/FIT and institutions in the Florida College System offering the baccalaureate degree whereby students could transfer seamlessly into a Bachelor program (or 2+2) in fisheries science, management or biology. (Without having to take an extra semester of courses).

Recommendation 6.

- A. Heavily schedule recruitment activity days at area high schools with a larger minority population.
- B. Explore the possibilities of starting a scholarship targeted toward underrepresented students interested in graduating with an AS in Aquaculture. This will help to facilitate a feeder pipeline for the Aquaculture program with local high schools such as East Bay and Leonard High.

Recommendation 7.

- A. Increase number of articulation agreements with fish farms and science labs in the Hillsborough county area to provide students with internship opportunities while in the HCC Aquaculture program.
- B. Develop a lecture series as part of the curriculum, where experts within the Aquaculture field will teach a certain number of classes per semester.

Recommendation 8.

- A. Develop "Hook Your Future" Aquaculture flyers (pamphlets) with a "fast facts" breakdown. Include information that compels students toward the Aquaculture industry, such as: Total cost of program, internship opportunities, salary information, and 100% placement rates from HCC. Distribute at various high schools within Hillsborough County and at all HCC campuses.
- B. Increase visibility of the Aquaculture program utilizing mixed media including various social networking sites (i.e. YouTube and Facebook) as well as the HCC school newspaper.
- C. The aforementioned advertisement strategies are designed to increase enrollment within the Aquaculture program. They will include information regarding the various 4-year degreed programs that an AS graduate can easily transfer into (within the state of Florida).