

Menu-Click here for choices ▾

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System Admin

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2012-13 Program Review
Program: Geographic Information Systems
Unit: Career Technical Education
Area: Academic Affairs



plan menu ▾

- The Plan
 - Administration
 - Mission Statement
 - Overarching Outcomes - SLOs / SAOs
 - Characteristics, Performance and Trends
 - SWOT
 - Accomplishments and Recommendations for Improvement
 - Strategic Direction
 - Staff Development**
 - Additional Comments
 - Executive Summary
 - Response to Executive Summary
 - Goal 1
 - Goal 2
 - Goal 3

[Show help](#)

Please detail the professional development needs for the staff, faculty and manager's in your area that will be necessary to support achievement of your programs/division goals.

Please click the link for more information on what is [expected in the staff development section](#).

[hide help](#)

Staff Development

Technology is constantly changing placing an emphasis on professional development. Apart from teaching the new tools the instructors need to be familiar with industry trends.

Vocational and tool orientated GIS conferences provide valuable software updates and technology trends provide valuable updates to enable the instructor to update lessons and continue dialog with GIS advisors what is important for the GIS student.

Academic orientated conferences such as the American Association of Geographers exhibit the various applications of lending support to development of GIS modules into various programs on campus such as a global warming exercise for ecology or a census exercise for a social science course, perhaps field data collection methods for biology or remote sensing diseased forests.

Research places online enrollments at colleges growing substantially faster than overall higher education enrollments. The expectation of academic leaders has been that these enrollments would continue. Programs providing entire online GIS certificates and degrees are increasing. Rio Hondo College GIS will benefit from providing the faculty an opportunity to enroll in one or more GIS courses (j.e.: Penn State) to determine how other programs effectively (or ineffectively) teach online and what resources are used.