AP4021, Program Revitalization and Discontinuance, sets out a process for determining if a program should undergo revitalization and/or discontinuance. This procedure may be implemented after a program has been identified by PRAC as being in need of revitalization.

Programs at-risk are identified by qualitative and quantitative data, including but not limited to: “long-term trends over three to seven years for enrollment history, projections for continued declining enrollment, changes in the academic discipline or career/technical field, labor market changes, articulation changes established by transfer colleges and universities that affect the viability of program offerings, or other factors that demonstrate that the program is in decline and predict it will continue to decline.” (see AP4021)

Members of the Program Review Committee, in reviewing this year’s program reviews, have identified two programs that we recommend for program revitalization based upon declines in enrollment and success rates.

**Auto Tech**

According to the Program Review for Auto Tech, student success and retention is a significant issue suggesting that program improvements are needed.

The data shown below indicate low enrollment numbers and/or very low success rates.

**Classes with Low Enrollment:**

Auto 228, Auto Computer Controls: enrollment-6, 67% pass rate
Auto 229, Troubleshooting: enrollment-7, 86% pass rate
Auto 232, Transmissions: enrollment-9, 44% pass rate
Auto 281, Elec & Electronic Systems: enrollment-7, 100% pass rate
Auto 285, Adv. Engine Performance: enrollment-7, 100% pass rate

**Classes with Low Pass Rates:**

Auto 114, Basic Fuels: enrollment-13, 31% pass rate
Auto 116, Auto Electrical systems: enrollment-15, 33% pass rate
Auto 232, Transmissions: enrollment-9, 44% pass rate
According to the Dean’s comments in the program review document, “The Advisory Committee of the Auto Tech program has expressed deep concern relative to the low number of students who have been able to obtain certificates in the last several years. The Committee has requested a full curriculum and certificate program review to update the program.”

In its revitalization process, the program should consider new transportation technologies, specifically alternatives in fuel-efficient transportation technologies that influence current and future industry standards and warrant consideration in the re-creation of the course curriculum.

In addition, it is essential that the causes for low enrollment and poor student success in some classes be addressed and recommendations made in the revitalization process.

**Court Reporting**

This is a labor-intensive program for both students and faculty as it requires repetitious, in-class practice time and relies heavily upon “time on task” or in class work to meet assignments.

The program serves a disproportional number of students in the 35-49 age group. According to the review, students typically have a great deal of outside responsibility that can interfere with their ability to attend classes and complete assignments. Yet, the program offers no evening courses or on-line or web based courses. As a result, the program appears to take a great deal of time to complete.

The ability to offer additional practicum and/or makeup classes in the evenings or online may make it possible for students to complete the program in a reasonable amount of time. Alternative methods of delivery need to be explored by the program and courses developed that will make it possible for students to meet program requirements in a reasonable amount of time.

In addition, program goals need to be reassessed – is the program intended to upgrade skills or create newly certified court reporters. In addition, the revitalization process should address the future of court reporting as a career, given technologies that can supplant many tasks common to the industry.