**Instructional Unit – Program Review**

**Reporting Period: 2013-14 through 2015-16**

**Part 1: - Program Overview**

**Program Name: Fire Science**

**Program Mission and Description:** The mission of the Fire Science Program at Jefferson State Community College is to prepare fire service personnel to operate in a safe and effective manner utilizing the latest accepted strategies and tactics. The Fire Science Program will develop students to assume leadership roles in emergency services advancing the philosophy that experience and education allows a firefighter to most effectively provide life and property saving public service.

The Fire Science program prepares persons serving in the fire service to advance to leadership positions within their organizations. Courses are designed to promote professionalism and advance critical thinking at the strategic level of emergency response providing for a safer and more efficient operations at emergency scenes. Information builds on basic tactical training received in recruit training.

Courses are provided in online, blended, and traditional formats to accommodate the unique rotating schedules of firefighters. Students are also given the opportunity to apply technical classes taken through the Alabama Fire College as credit for corresponding classes within the program after the successful completion of 6 hours in the program.

 2013-2014 Accomplishments:

* Developed material for FSC 101 Introduction to the Fire Service online class
* Developed material for FSC 299 Legal Aspects for the Fire Service online class
* Moved all current online classes into new Blackboard 9.1 environment
* Offered online classes
* Offered TBI classes for Birmingham Fire Department
* Purchased a table for marketing/recruitment purposes at the 2014 Fire Chief’s Executive Development Conference, Bryant Convention Center, Tuscaloosa, AL, Feb. 4-6, 2014, for marketing/recruitment

2014-2015 Accomplishments:

* Began dual enrollment classes with LeCroy Technical Center in Chilton County during the Spring 2015 Semester
* Presentation made to area high school Career and Technical Directors at the Shelby Campus Dual Enrollment Dual Credit Workshop
* Met with representatives of Pell City School System to discuss an articulation agreement.
* Reviewed current and former student’s files to determine students who had not completed the program and began contacting those students about completing the program

2015-2016 Accomplishments

* Met with Alan Rice (Alabama Fire College), representatives from several fire department training programs, and representatives from Central Alabama Community College, University of West Alabama. March 23rd 2016
* Offered online classes

**Program Admission and Awards:** No special admission process exists for the program. The Fire Science currently offers an AAS degree and an Advanced certificate.

The AAS Fire Science degree is a 61 hour program consisting of 28 hours of general education courses and 33 hours of fire science courses. Required fire science classes include classes in basic firemanship along with classes in supervision and leadership, technical instruction and legal aspects related to the fire service. Students take 5 fire science elective courses that can be picked from a variety of technical subdivisions in the fire service such as inspections, investigations, or various technical rescue types.

The Advanced Certificate is a 33 hour program consisting of 12 hours of general education along with 21 hours of fire science courses. 50% of the requirements must be taken through Jefferson state to apply and the hours align with the AAS degree.

**Program Demographics:**

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| **Category** | **Student Totals (3yrs)** | **Percentage (of total students)** |
| Total Students | 74 | 100 % |
| Number of Male | 69 | 93 % |
| Number of Female | 5 | 7 % |
| Age 18-25 | 25 | 34 % |
| Age 26-40 | 37 | 50 % |
| Age 41+ | 12 | 16 % |
| African American Students | 19 | 26 % |
| Asian Students | 0 | 0 % |
| Caucasian Students | 49 | 66 % |
| Hispanic Students | 3 | 4 % |
| American Indian or Alaskan Native | 1 | 1 % |
| Multi-Race | 2 | 3 % |

**Mode of Delivery:** The program currently uses internet delivered courses. The program is housed at the Carson Rd campus and is currently in the process of teaching out remaining students in the program as the program will become inactive by 2018. At this time, there are no plans to expand or change modes of delivery or locations.

**Program/Department Goals:**

Goal 1:Seek out opportunities for program growth and continued development

Goal 2: Continue to develop distance education/online Fire Science courses

Goal 3:Maintain up-to-date curriculum and courses that prepares students to advance in Fire Service

**Program/Department Outcomes Achievement:**

Goal 1: 2013-2014 Reviewed and revised FSC 208, FSC 270, developed material for FSC 101 Blackboard Class; developed materials for FSC 299 Blackboard class; set up vendor table and distributed program information at the 2014 Fire Chief’s Executive Development Conference and the Professional Firefighters Association Conference; visited The Birmingham Fire Training Facility, distributed program information and spoke with new recruits in training.

2014-2015 Dual enrollment established with LeCroy Career Center in Chilton County during Spring 2015 semester. Program faculty (Wyatt) made presentation to area high school Career and Technical Directors at the Shelby Campus Dual Enrollment Dual Credit Workshop. Program faculty held meetings and telephone communication with State Department of Education representatives, high school representatives such as LeCroy Career Center, Trussville High School, Shelby County Career Center, St Clair County Schools and Pell City School System to discuss dual enrollment dual credit and the Volunteer Fire Fighter Certification program. Fire Science Program (Wyatt) purchased a table for marketing/recruitment purposes at the 2014 Fire Chief’s Executive Development Conference, Bryant Convention Center, Tuscaloosa, AL, Feb. 4-6, 2014, for marketing/recruitment. Held annual Fire Science Program Advisory Committee Meeting April 14, 2014. Program faculty (Mulkey) made a presentation to Firefighters from various departments in Alabama attending a training seminar in Anniston Alabama at the request of the host instructor. Reviewed current and former student’s files to determine students who had not completed the program and began contacting those students about completing the program.

2015-2016 Met with Alan Rice (Alabama Fire College), representatives from several fire department training programs, and representatives from Central Alabama Community College, University of West Alabama. March 23rd, 2016.

Goal 2: 2014-2015 Courses that were identified as appropriate for online delivery include: FSC 160 Hazard Awareness, FSC 254 ISO (AIA) Standards, FSC 220 National Incident Management System II, FSC 101 Introduction to the Fire Service, FSC 299 Legal Aspects of the Fire Service. Lesson plans have been developed for the following: FSC 160 Hazard Awareness, FSC 299 Legal Aspects of the Fire Service, FSC 101 Introduction to the Fire Service

Goal 3: 2013-2014 Held Fire Science Advisory Committee meeting and obtained feedback and input about program and curriculum from members. Fire Science faculty attended training seminars and classes during the year to keep current in emergency response. Reviewed and revised FSC 208, FSC 270, developed material for FSC 101 Blackboard Class; developed materials for FSC 299 Blackboard class.

2014-2015 Revisions were made to FSC 110 Building Construction Principles, FSC 208 Fire Combat Tactics and Strategy, and FSC 131 Fire Extinguishment Principles. Faculty (Mulkey and Wyatt) attended EMS continuing education classes, and basic firefighter skills refresher training and testing through Birmingham Fire Department. Faculty (Mulkey) attended hazardous materials refresher training through Birmingham Fire Department and The Center for Domestic Preparedness.

2015-2016 Advisory Meeting complete March 2016.

**Part 2: Program/Department Change**

**Program/Department Goal Changes:** The decision was made in Spring 2017 to place the program inactive and begin the teach out process for the remaining students. This is currently in progress and all goals have no follow up plan due to this change.

**Part 3: Evidence of Staff Participation in Program Review**

**Faculty/staff participation:** The Fire Science Program staff includes one 60% program coordinator/instructor and one L19 part time staff/instructor. Program staff works closely together to carry out program matters. We meet formally each semester to review curriculum, evaluations, and student progression. The staff for the program was reduced in the Fall of 2016 by eliminating the L19 position due to continuing low enrollment numbers.

The Fire Science Advisory Committee meets at least once per year typically during the spring semester. The program staff shares program related information with the committee members and obtains valuable feedback. The committee is not actively involved in the preparation of this program review however, the program will continue to keep the committee abreast of any substantial changes in the program. The Fire Science Advisory Committee members are:

Committee Chair – Wayne Shirley Fire Chief, Chelsea FD

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| Chief Chuck Wingate | Hoover Fire Department |
| Chief John Bresnan | Homewood Fire Department |
| Chief Robert Ezekiel | Mountain Brook Fire Department |
| Chief William C. Hewitt | Tarrant Fire Department (Retired) |
| Chief Joseph Lynch | Irondale Fire Department (Retired) |
| Chief Howard Summerford | Center Point Fire Department |
| Chief Jim St. John | Vestavia Hills Fire Department |
| Chief Paul Syx | Bessemer Fire Department |
| Chief Jim Witherington | Cahaba Valley Fire Department |
| Chief Randy Davis | Irondale Fire Department  |
| Chief David M. Russell | Birmingham Fire & Rescue Service |
| Lt. Summer Davis  | Birmingham Fire & Rescue Service |
| Chief Albert Ward  | Birmingham Fire & Rescue Service |
| Lt. Barakas Taylor | Birmingham Fire & Rescue Service |
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