

**2013-14 Program Review**  
**Best Practices Form**

**Instructions:** *Submit this form as a separate attachment with your completed Program Review.* Programs often do something particularly well; usually they have learned through assessment—sometimes trial and error—what solves a problem or makes their programs work so well. These are often called **Best Practices** and can help others. Please share the practices your program has found to be effective. The contact information lets others know whom to contact for more information. This part of Program Review is linked to the Student Success Strategic Goal: “Become an exemplary model of student success by developing and implementing best practices.” For examples of Best Practices visit the [Program Review Committee’s website](#).

Program/Department: Journalism Name of Chair/Director/Manager: Daniel Edwards

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**Best Practice(s):**

Best Practices:

1. An experienced staff of one full-time professor and two adjuncts to provide instruction for a hands-on, vocational-type program.

The program has a solid core of professors to teach a subject that consists mainly of learned skills. The full-time professor, Danny Edwards, worked for 24 years for daily newspapers in California as a sports writer, news writer, assistant sports editor, news editor, metro editor, page designer and copy editor. Adjunct John Harte worked for 30 years for the Bakersfield Californian as a photojournalism and has vast experience in film-camera photography, digital photography and multimedia. Adjunct Olivia Garcia has worked for 15 years for newspapers and magazines as a reporter, editor and manager. All of the instructors have been teaching for at least 10 years or more. All of them are knowledgeable about the current work force and have provided hundreds of references for jobs and entrance into higher levels of education. The instructors meet periodically to evaluate the curriculum of courses to ensure that they are up-to-date to reflect changing environments in journalism as well as maintaining methods that remain intact.

2. Providing students with up-to-date information on completing an AA in journalism and transferring to a four-year institution. Instructors set aside sessions in classes to explain the pathway of the program so that it can flow with their major classes and GE classes. The full-time professor often provides counseling to students to inspire a seamless transgression through the program and pinpoint the best options for four-year college.

3. Maintain a professional-style student newspaper environment and its role as an important figure in the campus community.

The student newspaper has maintained an 85-year tradition through its reporters/photographers class and an editors' class. Most important is the students' commitment to making a schedule for newspaper publication and sticking to it. This is the journalism professor's 10th year at BC, and in that time, the newspaper has never been sent to the printer late. The deadline has always been made for the 129 publications of The Rip. This is a commitment made by the students who have embraced standards set by the curriculum of the program. This has instilled an attitude in the journalism program coined by the students as "The Rip way," meaning that everything starts with being on time and completing tasks on time.