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: Woodworking/Engineering and Industrial Technology department

Name of Chair/Director/Manager: <u>Sean Caras</u> Email Address: <u>scaras@bakersfieldcollege.edu</u> Phone: <u>395-4393</u>

Best Practice(s):

The Woodworking Technology department has some successful outreach and marketing tools, which increase our visibility in the local high schools, the local community, and professional/industrial arena. Some of the activities that are most effective include:

- High school open house for EIT related careers.
- STEM electric guitar building class; recruiting high school students to become a part of the EIT program at Bakersfield College.
- Saturday workshops for Society of Women Engineers; helping to spark an interest in young female students to choose a career within our EIT career pathways.
- The local high school teachers know us and are aware of our programs. Many of them have attended our classes and use Bakersfield College for the training they need in their classrooms.
- We help teams of students in EIT related clubs with their design and building projects for State and National competitions, as recent as the NASA competition in the Spring of 2013 held in Bozeman, MT.
- Visiting local industry and speaking to owners and members of the workforce, ensuring that the skill sets taught in the classroom curricula are relevant to industry standards in today's world. As a result, employees often enroll in courses in the WTP to help strengthen certain skill set areas.
- Working in high-end furniture and cabinet shops to ensure that my personal skill sets remain on the cutting edge of today's industry so that these skills may be passed along to students in the program seeking to enter the field in entry level positions.