**AAS in Business and Entrepreneurship Response to Suggestions**

**Criteria 9:** The suggestion from the scoring committee was made to create distinct vision, goals, and justifications between this program and the Award of Completion in Tribal Casino Management. However, this Award of Completion actually nests within the AAS in Business and Entrepreneurship. Likewise, the AAS in Business and Entrepreneurship nests within the Bachelor’s degree in Tribal Governance and Business Management.

When developing these programs, specific linkages were created between the courses, outcomes, and goals for each of the programs. A ladder approach was envisioned where students could initially pursue the Award of Completion, then the Associate’s Degree, and finally the Bachelor’s degree. Courses in each of the programs would contribute to requirements in the program “one step up the ladder.” In this way, students would not be taking similar, and possibly redundant, courses as they made progress towards their culminating degree.

The intent was the same for the programs’ associated outcomes and goals. Students would be pursuing very similar outcomes and goals in each of the three programs. As they made progress through the programs however, the expectations for performance would increase from a beginning level of proficiency, to developing, and finally to an advanced degree of proficiency in the course and program outcomes. This is the primary reason for the similarity between the programs’ vision, outcomes, and goals.

**Criteria 5 & 6:** It seems that the discrepancy asserted in the Suggestions for Improvement can be attributed to the re-activation of the program during the 2010 - 2011 academic year. Courses in this program began to be offered during the fall of 2010-2011. Thus, Criteria 6 has data for the number of students enrolled in courses and the program as a whole for that academic year.

However, none of these students graduated with an Associates in Business and Entrepreneurship that year. The program prioritization report includes a notation indicating the activation of the program on 10/18/2010. It wasn’t until the 2011 – 2012 academic year that the first students graduated from the program. Thus, Criteria 5 includes numbers of graduates beginning during the latter academic year, but none from the 2010 – 2011 academic year.

**Criteria 10:** There are two primary suggestions for improvements to this program and its corollary programs—the Award of Completion in Tribal Casino Management and the Bachelor of Arts degree in Tribal Governance and Business Management. First, the program could utilize additional full-time faculty. Two classes were completely full and students were waitlisted or re-directed to other courses during the Fall Quarter of 2014. Additional sections of these classes throughout the year should be offered to accommodate all students who wish to enroll in these programs. In addition, full-time faculty could contribute significantly to the program assessment objectives and data collection. Currently, part-time faculty are not required to participate in this process.

Second, it would be beneficial to provide an online, independent learning, or online hybrid section of all courses in these programs so that students away from the Lummi campus or extended sites could fully complete the courses for this program in the above modalities. Currently, the college only offers the program courses in this way. The college would need to ensure that general education and foundational courses could be completed in these modalities. It is believed that offering the entire program in this manner and through these modalities would increase student enrollment significantly.