I. Strengths

1. The department has recognized the need for drastic change, been working for restructuring the program with outside help.

2. The department is aggressively working to make assessments and improvements, implementing better record keeping.

3. Faculty involved in outside shows of their own work.

4. Study abroad programs were offered.

5. The department’s efforts to develop a student evaluation instrument.

6. Student morale is improving.

7. Art and Communication Departments are planning a BFA in Visual Communications that will be awarded by Art.

II. Weaknesses

1. Lack of national accreditation.

2. Lack of a good measure of student outcomes. (Art Education is in much better shape than Studio Art.)

3. Lack of focus and direction of the program.

4. Uneven assignment of student advising duties due to a lack of required faculty training on Blue and Gold system.

5. Underfunded to some extent. Need for greater maintenance updates of equipment and facilities.

6. A shortage of faculty for certain core courses.

7. Faculty morale is not good.
III. Recommendations

1. The program is in the midst of a major transition and overhaul with much of its future direction to be determined with the help of an outside consultant. The outside consultant is referenced in several sections of the report, indicating that the department is pinning a great deal of their future on his recommendations. The consultant has already been at TAMUK and submitted his report and recommendations. By Fall 2006, they will be working on implementation, but will not yet have any data. By 2007 they will start seeing the impacts and have data to show the results.

2. Therefore, the committee recommends that the Art program be required to be reviewed again during the 2007-2008 review cycle.

One-Year Follow-Up

To be reviewed again during the 2007-2008 review cycle.