

College of Letters and Science
Annual Survey and Report of Departmental Assessment Practices

Please return to: Associate Dean Herbert Wang by May 25, 2001
 c/o Associate Academic Planner Elaine Klein
 307 E. South Hall, 1055 Bascom Mall, Madison WI 53706

Department Name: Department of Botany

I. Assessment Plan

- Q1. The department has an assessment plan for the undergraduate program. (Y) N
- Q2. The department has an assessment plan for the graduate program. (Y) N
- Q3. The assessment plan/s is/are linked to the departmental mission. (Y) N

Please identify the types of tools in the assessment plan(s); if possible, indicate the academic years in which they have been or are intended to be employed:

Tools used to directly assess student learning:	Undergraduate Program	Graduate Program
National Exams		
Local Exams	Ongoingly (in courses)	
Capstone Courses	Ongoingly	
Embedded Testing		
Student Portfolios		
Theses, Dissertations		Ongoingly
Performance Evaluations		Ongoingly (in seminars)
Pre & Post Testing		
Tools used to indirectly assess student learning:	Undergraduate Program	Graduate Program
Student Surveys	1996-97; 2001-20	2000-01
Exit Interviews	1996-97	2001-02
Alumni Surveys	1999-00	2002-03
Employer Surveys	1997-98	
External Reviews		

Q5. Of the tools used to directly assess student learning, which provide the most useful information?
 Course exams and capstone courses for undergrads, theses and seminars for grads

Q6. Of the tools used to directly assess student learning, which provide the least useful information?

Q7. Of the tools used to indirectly assess student learning, which provide the most useful information?
 Exit interviews and focus groups

Q8. Of the tools used to indirectly assess student learning, which provide the least useful information?
 Alumni surveys (some of the responses turned out to be quite dated and therefore of little current relevance)

Q9. Please elaborate on any of the responses given above (please attach additional pages as needed).
 Formal reports are available upon request for all of the indirect assessment tools indicated above.

II. Assessment Processes

Q10. Responsibility for assessment has been assumed by _____ an individual
X a committee

If responsibility is delegated to an individual, this person is:

the chair / tenured faculty / untenured faculty / academic staff / short term staff / other: _____

If responsibility is delegated to a committee, this group is:

Specially constituted to address assessment of student learning Y N
Part of the Curriculum Committee Y N
Part of the Executive Committee Y N
Part of the Undergraduate/Graduate Education Committee Y N
Other: _____

Q11. The department has requested funds from the University Assessment Council (UAC) to help the department assess student learning.

Y N (in 1996-97)

If "yes", did the UAC award the department funds?

Y N

Were those funds useful?

Y N

Q12. The department has sought professional assistance to conduct assessment.

Y N

If "yes", from whom has the department sought professional assistance? (For example, the LEAD Center, the Office of Quality Improvement, the UW Survey Center, etc.)

_____ We used the services of the LEAD Center for student surveys and exit interviews in 1996-97; _____
_____ a copy of the final report of that assessment is attached.

_____ Also attached: This year's report on our graduate student questionnaires _____

III. Additional Information

Please attach any assessment reports you may have submitted to the University Assessment Council in compliance with the UAC's funding support requests.

Attached

In the interest of streamlining our requests for assessment information, please identify an assessment contact person: _____ Pending; new chairman of Assessment Committee to be appointed in fall; _____

Interim contact person: Professor Wayne Becker (262-5833).

Do you have any suggestions for workshops or learning opportunities in the area of student outcomes assessment?

None at present.

Thank you for taking time to complete this report.

Please return this form to the Associate Dean's Office by May 25, 2001.