



ASSESSMENT REPORT/PLAN

College/Division: College of Humanities & Natural Sciences

Academic Year: 2010-2011

Department/Center/Office: Example - Department of Chemistry

Submission Date: 08/17/11

SECTION 1: MISSION STATEMENT

It is our mission to offer excellent instruction in all areas of chemistry to help Loyola undergraduate students, including chemistry majors, other pre-professionals and non-science majors, learn college-level chemistry by offering a comprehensive curriculum. It is also the mission of the department to prepare Loyola students for further study or careers in chemistry or related disciplines such as dentistry, engineering, environmental science, forensic science, medicine, or pharmacy. The department also helps non-science majors to become empowered by a basic understanding of chemistry with its applications to societal issues and their physical world.

SECTION 2: GOALS/OBJECTIVES

1. Conduct a five-year external review to reassess assessment of program goals.
2. Add an Analytical Chemist (New Tenure-Track Faculty Position) and do a national search to fill the position.

Student Learning Outcomes (if applicable)

3. Chemistry majors who complete the American Chemical Society Accredited Curriculum will have appropriate knowledge of the four major areas of chemistry (analytical, inorganic, organic, physical) in order to continue graduate study of chemistry or a related scientific discipline, or to go directly into the job market and obtain a BS-level position.
4. Chemistry majors who complete the pre-medical curriculum will be prepared to take standardized professional entrance exams (such as MCAT, DAT, and OAT) and will get accepted to professional schools.
5. Chemistry majors in all other tracks will have sufficient knowledge in each of the major areas of chemistry and will be able to compete effectively for jobs.
6. Provide all chemistry majors with undergraduate research opportunities to better prepare them to enter their professional field.

SECTION 3: ASSESSMENT (What assessment tools are you using and how do they address the goals/objectives cited above?)

1. General Chemistry Major Field Test – Goals/Objective 3, 4, 5
2. American Chemical Society subject test – Goals/Objective 3, 4, 5
3. Acceptance Rates for Graduate School, Exit Interview and Senior Exit Survey – Goals/Objectives 6
4. Employment Rates, Exit Interview and Senior Exit Survey – Goals/Objectives 5, 6
5. Research project participation rates – Goals/Objectives 6
6. Number of student presentation – Goals/Objectives 6
7. Number of publications co-authored by students each semester – Goals/Objectives 6
8. External reviewers report – Goals/Objectives 1, 2
9. Five year review package – Goals/Objectives 1, 2

SECTION 4: WHERE ARE THE ASSESSMENTS LOCATED?

All assessments, survey results and reports are located within the Department of Chemistry and on the Intranet.

SECTION 5: EVALUATION PROCESS (How were the assessments evaluated?):

1. Results of the major field tests, ACS subject tests and research projects are compiled, distributed, discussed with faculty and dean during departmental meetings (Goals/Objective – 3, 4, 5, 6)
2. Completed Five-year review package submitted to the American Chemical Society to review to fulfill accreditation requirements (Goals/Objective – 1, 2)
3. Employment and graduation rates are obtained from the Senior Exit Survey and reviewed during departmental meetings (Goals/Objective – 3, 4)
4. The External Reviewers Report was distributed to the Chemistry faculty, dean and provost and incorporated in the strategic plan for the department.

SECTION 6: RESULTS (Links directly to Goals/Objectives in SECTION 2)

1. ACS standardized exams were administered for one semester in both General Chemistry and Biochemistry. Results of these exams indicated that student performance in all sections was on par with national norms.
2. All ACS majors have participated in an undergraduate research project and presented their results orally in CHEMA493.
3. Search committee was formed to conduct a national search to hire two new tenure track faculty.

SECTION 7: USE OF RESULTS (Examples of data-driven decision-making or modifications)

1. Results from the external review resulted in: (Goals/Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)
 - a. A Director for the Forensic Chemistry Program was hired
 - b. All students seeking internships with the NOPD Crime Lab were placed, efforts to improve program are ongoing.
 - c. Renovation and installation of Forensic Spectroscopy Lab on the second floor of Monroe Hall was completed
 - d. Upgrade to Forensic Chemistry curriculum was implemented, and a proposal to restructure program to bring in compliance with FEPAC accreditation standards was completed. Initial contact with accrediting body has been initiated.
 - e. Student lab fees were increased to \$100 to alleviate departmental budget shortfalls
 - f. The Department continues to struggle to expand the faculty to increase advanced chemistry offerings, contribute more courses to the common curriculum, and provide course releases to support undergraduate research. (goal since 1999) In 2005, the department received approval to hire an analytical chemist. This first hire was lost due to Hurricane Katrina and Dr. Underwood was hired the subsequent year. Unfortunately in 2005 the department lost Dr. Walia and a full time extraordinary position (Dr. Chris Costello). Dr. Andy Knight left the department in 2007 and was replaced in 2009 by Dr. Hoyt Meyer. In December 2010, Dr. Hoyt Meyer unexpectedly resigned from the Department. The Department continues to struggle to offer advanced courses in chemistry while also contributing to the common curriculum, first year experience, and Honors programs.
2. Two new tenure track faculty were hired (Goals/Objective 1, 2)

SECTION 8: RESOURCES/TIMELINE/APPROVALS (Based upon the modifications/adjustments included in the USE OF RESULTS section, identify the timeline, resources and approvals required to implement the change.)

Reflection: Looking forward, the department will continue to struggle to meet teaching commitments for both the A.C.S. accredited degree program and the expanded common curriculum while also providing support for the new interdisciplinary programs in environmental studies/sciences and computational science. The Department is seeking an increase of full-time adjunct faculty to provide an opportunity for tenure/tenure-track faculty to develop new common curriculum offerings, provide advanced electives in chemistry, and support the environmental studies/sciences and computational science programs.

The department will continue to implement assessment tools outlined in the Department's assessment plan and described in section 3.1 above. The Department will hold an assessment meeting late in spring of 2012 to assess progress in achieving goals set above.

SIGNATURE: DEPT. CHAIR/DIRECTOR**SIGNATURE: DEAN/VICE-PRESIDENT****Name:****Name:****Date:****Date:****Final Approval:****Implementation Date:**