

Self-Study

We were very fortunate to be able to hire one excellent new tenure-track faculty who began in Winter of 2009. However, two of our faculty ended their FERP period. In addition, one of our recent hires has taken another position and so we now have no tenure track faculty member to cover her area of expertise (biopsychology). Other faculty members will retire or FERP in the next year or so. Thus, additional tenure-track positions continues to represent our area of greatest need.

The operating budget allocated to the Department by the College has been drastically reduced. Our ability to serve students and maintain scholarly activity has been adversely affected.

The restriction of extra-quarter for pay means that our substantial summer schedule is taught mostly by temporary faculty and the academic advising, professional advising, recruitment efforts, etc. must be covered by the Chair.

New room capacity restrictions have affected our FTES because we have been forced to turn away students from classes that had not reached their cap. In addition, the fact that we are no longer allowed to enforce course prerequisites during registration has also reduced our FTES because students register for classes who do not have the prerequisites making it look as though courses are full which are not in fact full.

A major revision of the BS program in Industrial/Organizational psychology was recently adopted. We are currently undertaking a similar revision of the BA program.

Assessment

The Department's Outcomes Assessment plan describes three assessment goals.

Goal 1: Developing Scientific Thinking and Methodological Skills

Goal 2: Mastering the Content and Theory in Psychology

Goal 3: Applying Psychology and Preparing for Careers

We recently introduced a new assessment tool to complement the three methods of assessment that we have used previously. In addition, we are implementing a Web based method for administering two of the original assessments. This should permit us to collect better data and should also make it much less labor intensive to analyze that data.