



**COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC PLANNING AND REVIEW
ANNUAL PROGRAM REPORT**

College	CoS
Department	Earth and Environmental Sciences
Program Unit	Geology MS
Reporting for Academic Year	2015-2016
Department Chair	Jean Moran
Date Submitted	5/15/2017

1. SELF-STUDY (about 1 page)

A. Five-year Review Planning Goals

The problems with Geology's Annual Review of their Graduate Program is very similar to the problems with their Undergraduate Program review. There was no mention of the last five-year review or the goals and/or accomplishments that the Department hoped to or have achieved since the last five-year review, which was in 2010. The Department should have had their five-year review submitted in 2015, but since five-year reviews were out on hold, they were not obliged to turn in a review that year. Thus, it is very important that the Department relate in future annual reviews the suggestions and accomplishments that the Department was tasked to perform and what they have achieved since 2010. CAPR suggests that the chair review the annual review template.

B. Five-year Review Planning Goals Progress

As stated above there is no information regarding progress from the last five-year review. It is highly suggested that attention be given to this area in future reports.

C. Program Changes and Needs

The only real need indicated in the annual review was that of a new tenure-track position. Additionally, in the Fall of 2013, a new tenure-track faculty was hired with expertise in Environmental Sciences, who currently serves as the Environmental Science Program Coordinator. During the academic year of 2015-16 a new faculty member with expertise in carbon cycling was hired and began their tenure track career starting in the Fall of 2016. Finally, the Department was able to hire a new technician that started their position in 2015. There was no information provided in the 2015-2016 annual review regarding program changes or the immediate needs of the Department. This Department has a lot of room to grow and CAPR hopes they will take a concerted effort to promote their graduate program internally and externally.

2. SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT (about 1 page)

A. Program Student Learning Outcomes

The annual review did include a very good amount of information regarding program assessment. The Department reviewed two PLO's: PLO 3 (interpretation) and 5 (Geologic Time)

B. Program Student Learning Outcome(s) Assessed

Several courses were assessed via written and oral assignments. Written assignments and oral presentations were based on topical journal articles in the field. Additionally, student projects were also used for course assessment. Departmental rubrics were used for assessment. The courses assessed were: GEOL 6010 and GEOL 6340 courses during the Winter and Spring quarters of 2016. Both summary sheets and assignments were used in their assessment. Dr. Luther Stryker was the faculty in charge of course assessment. Both PLO's and ILO's were clearly organized. However, most courses were involved in some way in PLO assessment. A nice table outlining the laboratory skill rubric was also included.

C. Summary of Assessment Process

The review included the PLO's that will be assessed over the next two academic years: PLO 1 (Thinking and Reasoning [Geologic Materials]), PLO 2 (Data & Analysis), PLO 3 (Interpretation), PLO 4 (Research/Laboratory Skills) PLO 5 (Geologic Time).

D. Summary of Assessment Results

The process of assessment presented by the Department shows a complete rubric regarding program assessment, with summaries of each assessment assignment included in the review. However, there are some concerns that should be mentioned. The Overview in the section regarding Assessment Summaries, Geology MS, though tabulated data was included for the assessment, there was no explanation as to whether the data shows progress within the program or not. There is no comparison to previous years. There is no explanation as to past assessment and how it relates to this academic years' data. It is suggested by CAPR that the Department provides additional information as to how the program has evolved from the past five-year review and relate their assessment data to past assessment so that a better idea of improvement of the program can be determined.

3. STATISTICAL DATA (about 1 page)

Institutional Research, Analysis and Decision Support (IRAD) produces program statistics annually in standard format. These statistics (available on their page [here](#)) will be attached to the Annual Report of the Program Unit. This statistical document is expected to be approximately one page long and will contain the same data as required for the five-year review including student demographics of majors, student level of majors (e.g. Juniors, Seniors), faculty and academic allocation, and course data.

The Annual Report may include one or two pages of supplemental information, as appendices, in the form of graphical presentation (e.g., line graphs), tables, and pertinent discussion which summarize the data of the last several (3-5) years to make changes and trends more apparent.