

Self-Study

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). We were given permission to hire a person for this position but the search was cancelled due to the budget situation. Other faculty members will retire or FERP soon so additional tenure-track positions continues to represent a great need.

The operating budget allocated to the Department by the College has been drastically reduced. All assigned time has been eliminated thus drastically increasing the workload of the faculty. Class sizes are very much higher thus drastically increasing the workload of the faculty. Our ability to serve students and maintain scholarly activity has been dramatically reduced.

The elimination of extra-quarter for pay means that our substantial summer schedule is taught entirely by temporary faculty so academic advising, professional advising, recruitment efforts, etc. must be covered entirely by the Chair. Since extra-quarter for pay for the Chair is also in doubt, it could be that none of these services are available to students in the summer.

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 created serious problems for faculty, staff, and students.

Centralization of IT has negatively impacted our ability to serve students and engage in scholarly activity.

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, have implemented 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.