

<Graduate Program in Marine Sciences and Limnology> <School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences>

Table 4.1 Outcomes Assessment Implementation Summary

PhD Marine Biology		
	Academic Year	
	2012-13	2013-14
Assessment information collected	<p>1) <i>Qualifying Exams</i></p> <p>2) <i>Review of oral dissertation presentation by audience. Rankings were on a scale from 1-5, with 1 being excellent and 5 being poor.</i></p> <p>3) <i>Review of graduate theses by Department Head. Rankings range from Outstanding to Excellent to Very Good to Good to Acceptable.</i></p> <p>4) <i>Graduate presentation and publication record</i></p> <p>5) <i>Graduates first employment</i></p> <p>6) <i>Graduate satisfaction after graduation assessed through an exit interview. Rankings range from very Satisfied to Mostly Satisfied, to Not Satisfied.</i></p>	<p>1) <i>Qualifying Exams</i></p> <p>2) <i>Review of oral dissertation presentation by audience. Rankings were on a scale from 1-5, with 1 being excellent and 5 being poor.</i></p> <p>3) <i>Review of graduate theses by Department Head. Rankings range from Outstanding to Excellent to Very Good to Good to Acceptable.</i></p> <p>4) <i>Graduate presentation and publication record</i></p> <p>5) <i>Graduates first employment</i></p> <p>6) <i>Graduate satisfaction after graduation assessed through an exit interview. Rankings range from very Satisfied to Mostly Satisfied, to Not Satisfied.</i></p>
Conclusions drawn from the information collected above and how are faculty collectively involved in drawing conclusions	<p>1) Five PhD Marine Biology students took their qualifying exams this year. Three passed both their written and oral exams at the first attempt; the other two students received a conditional on both parts and passed the exam later.</p> <p>2) One student defended her dissertation. Nine reviews were received on the oral presentation, with an average score of 2.4. This is a low score compared to typical rankings in past years, and the lowest scores were given for the lack of a clear hypothesis, very little actual data being presented, and low scientific quality.</p> <p>3) One PhD Marine Biology student graduated this year (same</p>	<p>1) Five PhD Marine Biology students took their qualifying exams this year. Four students passed both exam parts, while the fifth student had a conditional pass in the oral section, which she passed later.</p> <p>2) One student defended her dissertation. Five reviews were provided for the public presentation, with an average score of 1.4. The lowest score was given for engagement of distant sites and the data collection and analysis.</p> <p>3) One PhD Marine Biology student graduated this AY. The Program Head rated the research skills as very good and the</p>

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	<p>student as defended). The review by the Program Head assessed this dissertation as good to fair for competence of research skills and good for level of written communication skills.</p> <p>4) The students presented at scientific venues while at GPMSL. The student has not published her work.</p> <p>5) The student is a stay-home mother at this time.</p> <p>6) The student ranked her research experience and training through GPMSL as mostly satisfied (courses) to very satisfied (field work). The student was pleased with the various research, outreach and agency interaction opportunities provided through our graduate program</p>	<p>written skills as good. The use of figures and tables was good, while the use of references and statistics was rated as adequate.</p> <p>4) The student presented her work at five national conferences as posters and oral presentations. She has published 3 peer-reviewed articles on her work, with another one currently being prepared for submission.</p> <p>5) The student is employed in the private sector and plans to remain in that field for the time being.</p> <p>6) The student was very satisfied with the general education, field work, outreach and agency interaction opportunities provided through the program. The student was mostly satisfied with the courses offered through GPMSL, but would like to see more course variety, especially on management, policy and law.</p>
Curricular changes resulting from conclusions drawn above	<p>Graduation of a single student in this program is low, although the fact that five students took their qualifying exams shows that student numbers in the PhD program are just more clumped than in an MS program. We suppose that this is mostly due to restricted funding from external sources over the longer time periods required for PhD students. This student that graduated had lower than average scores in her thesis defense and did not publish her research, an expectation (although not requirement) we have of PhD students. Rather than this being indicative of our program, it is likely more a matter of the particular student.</p>	<p>While graduation rate remains low in the PhD program, several new students are coming up through the program as seen by several more students taking their qualifying exams. Passing rate at the qualifying exams was good. Should passing rates decline, additional actions (one-on-one sessions with faculty advisor/committee or in form of seminar discussions) may have to be initiated. The graduated student has successfully published a large portion of her work despite some mid-range ratings on the quality of her thesis. GPMSL currently does not have a faculty member proficient in management and law, but our sister program in Fisheries (also within SFOS) does, so the GPMSL faculty feel that students interested in that aspect could benefit very much from that course. No specific action is planned at this time.</p>

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