

ANNUAL OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT REPORT

M.S. Biology

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14 June 2010

1. A copy of the current SLOA plan is attached. This plan was implemented in 1999 and revised in 2004.
2. Outcomes assessment data collected this year, and the approximate number of items collected.
 - a. Tally of Master's degree recipients: 15 (2009)
 - b. Tally of first-authored Master's student publications: 6 (2009)
 - c. Tally of co-authored Master's student publications: 3 (2009)
 - d. Funding obtained by Biology graduate students (M.S. and Ph.D. combined) as PIs or co-PIs on proposals submitted through IAB Business Office.
 - e. Sources of funding on grants on which Biology graduate students (M.S. and Ph.D. combined) were PIs or Co-PIs, submitted through IAB Business Office
3. List assessment items or data you plan to collect next year.
 - a. Tallies of first or sole-authored and co-authored thesis-related publications
 - b. Funding obtained by M.S. graduate students
 - c. Faculty evaluations of oral thesis defenses (see evaluation form below).
4. Did a faculty group or committee review any assessment data this year?
No, not explicitly. However, the data are being considered as part of the ongoing Biology & Wildlife strategic planning process.
5. Were any changes in curriculum made this year?
 - BIOL 604 Scientific Writing, Editing and Revising in Biological Sciences, 3 credits (3+0) added as new course (elective).
 - BIOL 665 Aquatic Entomology, 2 credits (1+3) added as new course (elective) cross listed with FISH.
6. Budget implications: Has assessment demonstrated the need for additional funding in
(a) Operating budget (b) Equipment budget (c) Other areas.

No

Department of Biology and Wildlife
Evaluation of oral defense of thesis

Faculty on a student's committee and at least one faculty member not on the students' committee (including any outside examiner) will complete the following form at the time of the thesis defense. *All faculty who attend a defense are encouraged to complete this review.*

Student: _____ M.S. _____ Ph.D. _____

Reviewer: _____ Department/Institute _____

Please circle as appropriate: Committee Chair Co-chair Member Not on committee

Please use the following categories:

5	4	3	2	1
Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor

	Excellent		Good		Poor	
1. General organization of presentation	5	4	3	2	1	
2. Statement of hypothesis or problem	5	4	3	2	1	
3. Demonstrates knowledge of, and acknowledges, previous work in the field	5	4	3	2	1	
4. Use of data to test hypothesis	5	4	3	2	1	
5. Clear discussion of interpretation of data	5	4	3	2	1	
6. Demonstrates knowledge of underlying biological concepts	5	4	3	2	1	
7. Clarity of voice	5	4	3	2	1	
8. Comfort in speaking	5	4	3	2	1	
9. Presentation is tailored to the audience and presenter interacts with the audience	5	4	3	2	1	
10. Effective use of graphics	5	4	3	2	1	
11. Technical quality of graphics	5	4	3	2	1	
12. Clear statement of conclusion of presentation	5	4	3	2	1	
13. Time management (finished in a timely manner)	5	4	3	2	1	
14. Ability to answer questions from the audience	5	4	3	2	1	
15. Overall rating of presentation	5	4	3	2	1	

Comments:

Please return this form to: Department of Biology and Wildlife, 211 Irving I Building, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks, AK 99775

Student Learning Outcomes Assessment
Degree Program: M.S. Biology

Period	1999-00	2000-01 through 2002-03	2003-09
Assessment information collected	1. Survey will be sent out to alumni (1995-2000) in spring 2001.	No activity	1. Alumni Survey finalized and mailed to graduate degree alumni (1995-2003), January 2004. 2. Questionnaires evaluating oral thesis defenses are being distributed to faculty in attendance at each defense. (Implemented only sporadically to date) 3. Publications coupled with theses will be tabulated and tallied.
Conclusions drawn from this information	Data will be tabulated by department staff and evaluated by the Teaching Advisory Committee (TAC).		1. Alumni responses analyzed (see March 2005 annual report). 3. Publication rates: see March 2005-07 annual reports and 2008 Program Review document.
Curricular changes resulting from conclusions			Scientific Writing (BIOL 604) added as a new course