

## **Assessment, Improvement, Measurement (AIM): 04/09/2013**

**Plan Year:** 2011-2012

**Unit:** Architectural Technology

**Coordinator(s):** Thomas Rogers, Karman Wheeler, William Franklin

**Reviewer:** William Franklin

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**Program Health Review:** Use the Annual Program Health Review to evaluate student achievement and, if warranted based upon analysis of the results, make program changes to improve student achievement.

Identify expected student learning outcomes, assess the extent to which these outcomes are achieved, and provide evidence of improvement based on analysis of the results.



**Measure Text:** PROGRAM HEALTH REVIEW - LEVEL 1

1. Program Health Review - Refer to the attached Annual Program Summary for longitudinal information related to enrollment, graduates, employment, employer and alumni satisfaction, and licensure pass rates.
2. Student Learning outcomes

Three student learning outcomes – Plan an assessment for each outcome identified, and assess the extent to which these outcomes are achieved, and provide evidence of improvement based on analysis of the results.

**Achievement Target:** Program Health Review Target - Maintain a level 1 assessment with comments from program coordinator, assistant dean, dean and vice president according to attached time schedule.

**Student Learning Outcome Target** - Student learning outcomes are identified, assessed on level of achievement, and evidence of improvement are provided based on analysis of the results according to the attached time schedule.

**Results:** 1. Strengths of the Program

- a. The quality of faculty remains high with all full-time faculty maintaining professional architectural licenses and part-time faculty specializing in the specific topics of which they teach.
- b. Our graduates – just this year we have had two graduates make a donation to a foundation for our program – still in its infancy. One of these graduates plans on making a \$10,000 donation. They also participate on juries, are guest speakers in classes, and serve on our advisory committee. We find them to be a great source of information as to what is going on in the profession. They also assist us in arranging field trips for our students.
- c. Driven by societal demand, sustainability components are integrated throughout the program.
- d. An increase from 2010-11 in students progressing from the first semester studio to second is noted. In the Spring of 2011 there were 10 students populating one section who progressed from ACH 100 to ACH 150 compared to 16 currently populating two sections – with more still to enroll. It is the progression from these two studios where we generally see the most attrition. If this trend continues, this should also have a positive effect on the number of graduates each year. I am anticipating at least 10 graduates during the 2011-12 academic year.
- e. From surveys conducted by the college, 100% satisfaction is noted from graduates and employers.
- f. Our advisory committee – this year the committee has assisted us in evaluating a program assessment required to maintain Perkins legislation. Our members are varied and active.
- g. Our student organization – American Institute of Architecture Students – In addition to providing extracurricular opportunities for our students, they also provide a service to the program in marketing efforts and in sponsoring our end-of-year graduation and awards banquet.
- h. Building facilities, location, and equipment - Our labs continue to be state-of-the-art. Display areas in the hallways outside our labs continue to be used for reviews of projects. While it is understood that our program will relocate to the Newtown Pike Campus at some point, the proximity to the UK College of Design is a plus.
- i. Program reputation in the professional community - We continue to hear from members of our advisory committee, graduates, etc. that our graduates are meeting needs in the profession.
- j. Opportunities locally, regionally, and nationally for our graduates – The broad based nature of our curriculum allows our students to not only pursue careers upon graduation, but also allows them to matriculate easily into related programs at four-year colleges across the state and nation.

2. Items Requiring Continued Attention

- a. From the surveys conducted by the college, a decrease is noted in job placement (67%) though only three alumni responded and it is not known if the 100% job placement figure reported in 2009-10 included any students from Architectural Technology since the number responding included students from the CADD program. If an accurate figure, this is likely attributed to two main factors – the sluggish economy as well as an increase in graduates pursuing higher degrees - which is a positive. It is hoped that the development of a practicum in our program will enhance job placement.
- b. Retention – Though retention appears to be improving, this is an area that we should continue to monitor and look for ways of sustaining.
- c. Marketing – We must continue to market the program both within and without the college. It is hoped that the recent involvement with the Admissions Office during the Access to Careers program will further help us to identify those prospective students who have expressed an interests in architecture and related fields.
- d. Development of program assessment to comply with Perkins legislation – We will continue to research options for this assessment and work closely with the systems office.
- e. Student major codes – We must continue to work with students and the Records Office to ensure that students pursuing our major have the correct major code especially given the new assigned advisee program at the college.
- f. Articulation agreements – We must continue to review our agreements with four year colleges to ensure that they are up to date.

3. Document and provide evidence indicating how last year's program review resulted in improvements in the program/department.

In last year's review the Assistant Dean indicated that the faculty need to look at potential recruitment opportunities and look at ways to retain current students. While having a presence at late registration in the waiting area for the pit is not something new that we have tried, we did develop new promotional materials for students to review. We enhanced our usual promotional display at the Commit to Complete Fair by creating a lab setting with computer station and drafting table. Members of the American Institute of Architecture Students worked on their assignments and relayed aspects of our program to interested BCTC students attending the fair. This gave the student organization an opportunity to provide a great service to our program. We also participated in the Access to Careers event where we introduced high school students to our program. We will follow up with those students by sending them additional program information. While we have had other opportunities in the past to talk with high school students, we have not had access to contact information. We will send similar program information to other students who have indicated an interest in architecture and related fields through the Admissions Office. Efforts to increase retention include an increase in monitoring the students who have not signed up for classes during priority registration and contacting them to discuss. The development of a practicum program is in its infancy. The potential for a student to gain work experience prior to graduation is hoped to increase their interest in staying with us.

Items indicated that required continued attention included review of the makeup of our advisory committee and the updating of hardware and software. This year four new members have been added to our advisory committee representing various career fields including sales, structural engineering, construction, and architecture. Over the winter break new computers will be installed in our labs along with the latest cutting edge industry standard software.

**AD Comments:** I agree with comments made by program coordinator. This program does have faculty that remain qualified in their profession, they have a strong advisory committee that participates in the program, and they have made efforts to update software, equipment, and facilities, and the student organization is becoming more active and has once again affiliated itself with the national association. I also agree with coordinator comments on items requiring attention. Further efforts in recruiting and retention should be continued. Continued efforts to develop articulation agreements need to be explored. As indicated, efforts to work on improvement for indicated items from last year have shown some gain in recruitment, retention and the improvement of the advisory committee, these efforts need to continue.

**Dean Comments:** Agree with the comments per Coordinator and Assistant Dean. This program area needs to continue to add members to their Advisory Committee and keep strong ties with industry.

**VP Comments:** The faculty have continued to work diligently to improve this program. While enrollments continue to be a concern, the quality of the program is not a concern. The faculty need to continue to partner with other construction-related programs at the college.

**Target Results:** Met

**Findings:**

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