



Texas Southern University
Assessment Plan 2010-2013

Unit Assessment Plan

College of Science and Technology

Master of Science in Biology

Introduction

Texas Southern University's Mission

Texas Southern University is a comprehensive metropolitan university. Building on its legacy as a historically black institution, the university provides academic and research programs that address critical urban issues and prepare an ethnically diverse student population to become a force for positive change in a global society.

In order to achieve this mission, Texas Southern University provides:

- quality instruction in a culture of innovative teaching and learning
- basic and applied research and scholarship that is responsive to community issues
- opportunities for public service that benefit the community and the world.

Texas Southern University's Vision

Texas Southern University will become one of the nation's pre-eminent comprehensive metropolitan universities. We will be recognized by the excellence of our programs, the quality of our instruction, our innovative research, and our desire to be a contributing partner to our community, state, nation, and world.

Accreditation Standards

Accreditation by Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACS) Commission on Colleges signifies that the institution: (1) has a mission appropriate to higher education, (2) has resources, programs, and services sufficient to accomplish and sustain that mission, and (3) maintains clearly specified educational objectives that are consistent with its mission and appropriate to the degrees it offers, and that indicate whether it is successful in achieving its stated objectives.

Source: The Principles of Accreditation: Foundations for Quality Enhancement, 5th edition

Goal 1 Assessment Plan 2010-11 to 2012-13

1 Goal Description

Goal 1

To prepare students to teach Biology in public and private schools, two- and four-year colleges, and also to prepare those who wish to seek employment in government and industry and related areas.

2 SLO Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

SLO 1.1

Students will demonstrate advanced knowledge of various aspects of Biological Sciences, such as General Biology, Plant Biology and Animal Biology, by successfully completing qualifying exams administered by the Biology Department at TSU.

3 Metric

Successful completion of qualifying examination rating will be based on the numbers of students scoring 70% or higher on the exam.

4 Target 2010-11

60% of students will successfully complete qualifying examination

5 Findings 2010-11

(1) For the Fall Semester 2010, the Metric Rating to Pass the qualifying exam is 60% or higher: 37.5% of students successfully complete qualifying examination (3 out of 8 students Passed the exam)

(2) For the Spring Semester 2011, the Metric Rating to Pass the qualifying exam is 70% or higher: 0% of students successfully complete qualifying examination (0 out of 5 students Passed the exam)

(3) For the 2010-11: 23.1% students successfully complete qualifying examination (combination of Fall and Spring semester: 3 out of 13 students Passed the exam).

6 Action Plan 2010-11

Based 2010-2011 Finding: Provide study sessions that will focus on the student's weaker areas of biological sciences.

7 Target 2011-12

70% of students will successfully complete qualifying examination

8 Findings 2011-12

1) For the Fall Semester 2011, the Metric Rating to Pass the qualifying exam is 70% or higher: 69.6% of students successfully complete qualifying examination (16 out of 23 students Passed the exam)

2) For the Spring Semester 2012, the Metric Rating to Pass the qualifying exam is 70% or higher: 53.3% of students successfully complete qualifying examination (8 out of 15 students Passed the exam)

3) For the 2011-12: 63.2% students successfully complete qualifying examination (combination of Fall and Spring semester: 24 out of 38 students Passed the exam).

9 Action Plan 2011-12

Based 2011-2012 Finding: The Dept. will continuously provide study sessions that will focus on the student's weaker areas of biological sciences.

10 Target 2012-13

80% of students will successfully complete qualifying examination

11 Findings 2012-13

(1) For the Fall Semester 2012, the Metric Rating to Pass the qualifying exam is 70% or higher: 27.3% of students successfully complete qualifying examination (3 out of 11 students Passed the exam)

(2) For the Spring Semester 2013, the Metric Rating to Pass the qualifying exam is 70% or higher: 100% of students successfully complete qualifying examination (8 out of 8 students Passed the exam)

(3) For the 2012-13: 57.9% students successfully complete qualifying examination (combination of Fall and Spring semester: 11 out of 19 students Passed the exam).

12 Action Plan 2012-13

Based 2012-2013 Finding: The Dept. will continuously provide study sessions that will focus on the student's weaker areas of biological sciences.

13 Additional Reference Documents

Qualifying examination data.

Goal 2 Assessment Plan 2010-11 to 2012-13

1 Goal Description

Goal 2

To prepare students for advanced (e.g., Doctor of Philosophy [Ph.D.]) degrees with specialization in the Biological Sciences.

2 SLO Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

SLO 2.1

Students will successfully conduct Mentored Research and Thesis Defense Presentation that are approved by the Thesis Member Committee.

3 Metric

Successful completion of a Thesis Defense in no more than three years.

4 Target 2010-11

50% of graduate students will successfully complete the thesis defense in no more than three years.

5 Findings 2010-11

(1) 67.7% of the graduate students successfully complete the thesis defense in no more than three years (Based on 6 out of 9 students admitted Fall 2008 and completed Research and thesis defense in 3 years)

(2) 100% of students successfully completed the thesis defense (6 out of 6 completed research and passed thesis defense).

6 Action Plan 2010-11

Provide resources as needed to foster timely graduation of students.

7 Target 2011-12

60% of graduate students will successfully complete the thesis defense in no more than three years.

8 Findings 2011-12

57.2 % of the graduate students successfully complete the thesis defense in no more than three years (Based on 12 out of 21 students admitted (10 students) Fall 2009/ (11 students) spring 2010 and completed Research and

9 Action Plan 2011-12

Provide resources as needed to foster timely graduation of students.

10 Target 2012-13

70% of graduate students will successfully complete the thesis defense in no more than three years.

11 Findings 2012-13

(1) 66.7 % of the graduate students successfully complete the thesis defense in no more than three years (Based on 8 out of 12 students admitted (9 students) Fall 2010/ (3 students) spring 2011 and completed Research and thesis defense in 3 years)

(2) 100% of students successfully completed the thesis defense (8 out of 8 completed research and passed thesis defense).

12 Action Plan 2012-13

Provide resources as needed to foster timely graduation of students.

13 Additional Reference Documents

Based on the numbers of biology graduate students.

