Departmental and Program Assessment
Annual Assessment Plan Basic Update

Academic Year: ___2012-13_____

Academic Unit: ____Mathematics and Computer Science_____

Chair: ____Gabriel Ferrer_____

Student Assessment Plan (SAP) – Basic Check-list

1. Have any changes been made to your program's student assessment plan or student learning goals? Your recent version should be on the web at http://www.hendrix.edu/academics/academics.aspx?id=7264. If you have made changes, then attach a copy of the new plan or goals.

   □ yes   X no

2. Are student learning goals available to students on the web on the departmental/programmatic page(s)? If not, then this will be considered as an action plan for the coming year.

   X yes   □ no

3. Are student learning goals, appropriate for each course, included in the course syllabi in your department or program? If not, then this will be considered as an action plan for the coming year.

   □ yes   X no

A majority of departmental faculty do include course learning goals in syllabi. The remainder still need to do this.

Student Assessment Plan Development - Departments and programs who have a complete and current SAP should consider the next step in SAP development.

1. As a next step in SAP development, departments/programs are encouraged begin working on an assessment audit to determine how student learning goals fit across the courses in the major. Sometimes the term "scaffolding" is used to describe this process. This could be as complicated as a full grid of student learning goals, or a single learning goal, across the courses in the major. (This has not been required of departments, but it is a recommended next step when the SAP is up to date.) Has your program already done this?

   □ yes **X** no *If yes, please provide any **new** results in either in prose or as a table. If no, then this could be the next annual action plan for your program.*

Yearly Assessment Report – each department or program is expected to have assessment discussions for at least two hours each academic year. If necessary, help is available from David Sutherland, just call.

1. What was your planned action item identified in your last report?

We were to select two courses from each discipline for assessment audits. This did not occur.

2. Briefly summarize the topics discussed in your annual assessment meeting.

We discussed the quality of the senior thesis projects relative to our learning goals for them. However, we did not have a formal discussion of the issue of awarding a full course credit for them. We also did not have any broader discussion of the programs.

3. What was the conclusion of your assessment discussion and how did the collected assessment data inform your conclusion? Specifically describe any curricular or programmatic changes that have been made that were based, at least in part, on the data in your SAP.

We concluded that motivated students did excellent work according to our criteria, but that a significant minority of students were rated "Unsatisfactory" on one or more of the criteria. We do not at this time plan any changes to this aspect of our program.

4. Define one new action item for your assessment discussions next year.

We need to broaden the discussion to include other elements of both programs. In particular, we need to begin examining whether our courses are meeting the learning goals we have on our web pages.