

Program Assessment Report (PAR) on Completed Assessment

Year 1 [2014/2015] ~ Program: Biophysics

1. Which set of PLOs was assessed this academic year (identify each PLO)?

Biophysics has only three PLOs. This year we decided to assess PLO #2.

- 1.
2. Graduates will have will have completed at least fifteen credits of advanced course work (at the third and fourth year level) in a combination of physics and/or chemistry and/or biology.
- 3.

2. Describe the assessment activities below. Please provide enough detail to convey the nature of the activities.

All graduating seniors were given exit interviews and their transcripts were reviewed. Furthermore, two courses (the only two required courses for Biophysics Majors in our department) were not assessed this year.

3. What were the results of the assessment activities?

Review of (2014-2015) transcripts showed the two of the three graduates exceeded 15 credits of 300-400 level science courses. One graduate had ten credits at the 300-400 level but took several 200 level courses that are taken by many science majors in junior year.

The review of (2014-2015) transcripts indicated that none of our graduates took the Physics Research course. Furthermore, since there is no requirement in the program to take a research course, students in the Biophysics major do not normally take any capstone research course in their senior year.

4. Where applicable, outline the steps you will take to make improvements to the program based on the results of assessment activities identified in #3.

The review of 2014-2015 transcripts indicated progress has been made on this PLO. A program improvement recommendation will be to modify the Biophysics program to bring it's research experience expectations in line with those of the other programs in our department and the natural sciences departments at The University of Scranton in general. Thus a program change to require PHYS 493 and PHYS 494 is recommended. It is also recommended that biophysics majors take the research methods course being developed in the department as well as a basic electronics course for scientists.

5. Are there any new resources needed to make program improvements? If so, please include the resources and provide justification for each in the Budget section of the Annual Report.

Including Biophysics majors in the Undergraduate Physics Research Course would be facilitated by the department purchase of an updated EEG/EMG monitoring device. The department is currently borrowing one from the Psychology department but that equipment will need to be returned at some point.

*Submit to Ms. Rebecca Haggerty (Rebecca.haggerty@scranton.edu) with a notation in your Annual Report that "Program Assessment Report(s) (PAR) has been submitted under separate cover."

