

Natural Sciences

Academic Affairs

Administrative Unit Assessment

FY 19 (July 2018-July 2019)

Department and Assessment Report Information

Prepared on:7/29/2019 4:55:50 PM	By:dawn.sherry@mga.edu
For which department or area are you reporting?	Natural Sciences
What is the name and MGA email address of the person responsible for this report?	Dawn Sherry dawn.sherry@mga.edu

Departmental Mission and Goals

The mission and goals of the department should be consistent over a 5 year period, although some institutional changes may necessitate and prompt a change in mission or goals for specific departments. In this section, you will report the mission statement for your department as well as the long term goals (5 year range) for the department.

What is the mission statement for this department/area? Your mission should explain why the department/area exists and who it serves.	The department of Natural Sciences prepares students for rigorous post-baccalaureate programs or to enter into today's competitive job markets by providing opportunities for students to advance their knowledge through undergraduate research and through experiential learning. The Dept of Natural Sciences supports the scholarly atmosphere of the university by promoting faculty research and scholarly activity through grants and travel awards.
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What are the goals for this department? These should be the "big things" the department/area intends to accomplish within 5 years.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">To increase student engagement by advancing scientific knowledge through undergraduate research.To contribute to faculty research and the scholarly atmosphere of the university.To grow enrollment in the B.S. Biology programTo expand student access to experiential learning opportunities.
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Objectives

Each year, every department should identify objectives the department hopes to accomplish in the next year. These should align with departmental goals and the MGA strategic plan. In the next section you will be reporting on the objectives you set and whether or not you achieved them in FY19. Later in the document you will report on objectives you hope to accomplish in the coming fiscal year, FY20.

Objective 1

Objective 1: What was this department's first objective for this fiscal year? Objectives should be specific, measurable, and achievable within one year.	*Please note, this is the first year the Dept of Nat Sciences is submitting objectives. Last year, the objectives were submitted at the College level. This report will establish baseline data. To increase number of students involved in undergraduate research.
Objective 1: How did your department measure this objective? (Survey, budget number, number of participants, jobs completed, measurable time and/or effort)	Enrollment in SCIE 2999 courses
Objective 1: What was your target outcome for this objective? (i.e. 80% participation, 5% enrollment growth, 7% change in engagement)	Our target outcome is to increase the number of students enrolled in SCIE 2999 by 5%. Baseline Data: FA18 enrollment: 13 students SP 19 enrollment: 17 students
Objective 1: At what level did the department/area achieve on this objective? (This should be a number, i.e. 82%, 6%, 345 attendees, 75% engagement)	N/A-Baseline data
Objective 1: Did your department meet this objective?	The department met this objective.
Objective 1: What did your department learn from working toward this objective? What changes will you make based on this effort next year?	N/A. Baseline data.

Objective 2

Objective 2: What was this department's second objective for this fiscal year? Objectives should be specific, measurable, and achievable within one year.	<p>*Please note, this is the first year the Dept of Nat Sciences is submitting objectives. Last year, the objectives were submitted at the College level. This report will establish baseline data.</p> <p>To provide faculty seed grants for scholarly and creative activity focused on undergraduate research.</p>
Objective 2: How did your department measure this objective? (Survey, budget number, number of participants, jobs completed, measurable time and/or effort)	<p>Count of number of faculty offering undergraduate research opportunities by semester. Count of number of faculty receiving STEM grant funds.</p> <p>Baseline Data:</p> <p>Number of faculty offering undergrad research opportunities FA 18: 9</p> <p>Number of faculty offering undergrad research opportunities SP 19: 7</p> <p>Number of faculty receiving funds from STEM grant: 13 (note, not all of these faculty offered undergraduate research. Several faculty that received funds were involved with Bibb county K-12 projects.)</p>
Objective 2: What was your target outcome for this objective? (i.e. 80% participation, 5% enrollment growth, 7% change in engagement)	<p>To increase the number of faculty participating in undergraduate research by 5%.</p> <p>To increase number of faculty receiving seed money for undergraduate research by 5%.</p>
Objective 2: At what level did the department/area achieve on this objective? (This should be a number, i.e. 82%, 6%, 345 attendees, 75% engagement)	N/A. Baseline data.
Objective 2: Did your department meet this objective?	The department met this objective.
Objective 2: What did your department learn from working toward this objective? What changes will you make based on this effort next year?	N/A. Baseline data.

Objective 3

Objective 3: What was this department's third objective for this fiscal year? Objectives should be specific, measurable, and achievable within one year.	*Please note, this is the first year the Dept of Nat Sciences is submitting objectives. Last year, the objectives were submitted at the College level. This report will establish baseline data. To increase number of students enrolled in the B.S. Biology program
Objective 3: How did your department measure this objective? (Survey, budget number, number of participants, jobs completed, measurable time and/or effort)	Count of the number of students enrolled in B.S. Biology program Baseline: FA 2018- 518 students.
Objective 3: What was your target outcome for this objective? (i.e. 80% participation, 5% enrollment growth, 7% change in engagement)	5% enrollment growth.
Objective 3: At what level did the department/area achieve on this objective? (This should be a number, i.e. 82%, 6%, 345 attendees, 75% engagement)	N/A baseline data
Objective 3: Did your department meet this objective?	The department met this objective.
Objective 3: What did your department learn from working toward this objective? What changes will you make based on this effort next year?	N/A. Baseline data.

Objective 4

Objective 4: What was this department's fourth objective for this fiscal year? Objectives should be specific, measurable, and achievable within one year.	<p>*Please note, this is the first year the Dept of Nat Sciences is submitting objectives. Last year, the objectives were submitted at the College level. This report will establish baseline data.</p> <p>To create new experiential learning opportunities for students (e.g., internships, etc.)</p>
Objective 4: How did your department measure this objective? (Survey, budget number, number of participants, jobs completed, measurable time and/or effort)	<p>Number of experiential learning courses offered will be counted.</p> <p>Number of participants in experiential learning opportunities will be counted (e.g., student participants in undergraduate research conferences).</p> <p>Baseline Data SCIE 2999 sections-9 BIOL 4120-2 sections 13 student presenters in the Undergraduate Conference at MGA April 18-20, 2019</p>
Objective 4: What was your target outcome for this objective? (i.e. 80% participation, 5% enrollment growth, 7% change in engagement)	<p>5% increase in experiential learning courses offered.</p> <p>5% increase in participant number in undergraduate research conference presenters.</p>
Objective 4: At what level did the department/area achieve on this objective? (This should be a number, i.e. 82%, 6%, 345 attendees, 75% engagement)	<p>N/A. Baseline data.</p>
Objective 4: Did your department meet this objective?	<p>The department met this objective.</p>
Objective 4: What did your department learn from working toward this objective? What changes will you make based on this effort next year?	<p>N/A. Baseline data.</p>

Future Plans

<p>Please identify at least four measurable objectives for the next fiscal year. In listing the objectives, please use the format shown in these examples.1) The Department of X will improve services levels by 5% as measured by our satisfaction survey. 2) The department to X will provide training in ABC for at least 73 MGA faculty and staff.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Department of Natural Sciences will increase number of students involved in undergraduate research in SCIE 2999 courses by 5% as measured by enrollment reports.2. The Department of Natural Sciences will provide faculty seed grants to support and increase the number of faculty participating in undergraduate research by 5% as measured by a count of faculty offering undergraduate research and by a count of faculty receiving seed money for undergraduate research.3. The Department of Natural Sciences will increase the number of students enrolled in the B.S. Biology program by 5% as measured by enrollment data.4. The Department of Natural Sciences will increase the number of experiential learning opportunities available to students as measured by a 5% increase in enrollment in experiential learning courses and in a 5% increase in participation in the undergraduate research symposium.
<p>Based on this assessment, please share your thoughts on the current status and future direction of this department or area.</p>	<p>The department of Natural Sciences is committed to growing both student and faculty scholars over the next five years. Both groups will benefit the local, state and regional community.</p>

Form run:

Tuesday, January 14, 2020