

Academic Program Review Council

Minutes of November 15, 2012 2:30-3:20 pm, Swenson 2005

Members Present: Jacobs; Li; Rosenberg; Stocker.

Excused: Iwen (class conflict)

Natural Sciences Review, Summary Discussion:

Natural Sciences as a department is clearly making an effort to engage students and to prepare them for careers in the sciences. We offer the constructive criticism that the department has not advocated enough on its own behalf or sufficiently applauded its successes; the Council saw a missed opportunity for the department to affirm itself.

The Council encourages work to be integrated across programs in certain areas, including the process of preparing the self-study, recruitment of students, and curriculum development.

The Council encourages the department to align its strategic plans with the self-study, especially Chapters 5 and 6.

Recommended revisions to the Self-Study document:

Appendix I should be integrated with Chapter 6.

Next meeting: Assignments were accepted by councilors for writing summaries of chapter discussions, due by the week following Thanksgiving:

Chapter 1: Li

Chapter 2: Rosenberg

Chapter 3: Stocker

Chapter 4: Jacobs

It was decided that the Council's response should not proceed section-by-section, but instead should proceed in a smooth narrative. The APRC minutes from September 20, 2012 are still outstanding and will be submitted in the near future.