

Academic Program Review 2010
Executive Summary
Department of Geological Sciences

The Department of Geological Sciences was included in the eighth cycle of academic program review for the 2009-2010 academic year. Included in the program review process was the composition of a self-study document based on faculty analysis, a departmental retreat where the data were reviewed and the final two sections discussed, and a visitation by an external reviewer. Dr. David Rogers served as the external reviewer and read the self-study, interviewed faculty, staff, administration, and students, and submitted a separate analysis.

The departmental self-study completed by the faculty and staff is the major document for this program review. This complex document reveals the strengths and challenges through the departmental perspective and reflects the commitment of the department for self-analysis, reflection, and evaluation. The institutional expectation is that the department and college administration will use the self-study document, the external review, the dean's report, and the executive summary as guides to the faculty, staff, and administration for the next several academic years as the department addresses the recommendations. Since this process requires an enormous amount of time and effort from all of the participants, it is necessary to ensure that the results are used to inform decisions and future course of actions. Therefore, the department faculty and college administration will be expected to provide a summary of activities undertaken during the 2010-2011 academic year as a result of the program review. This report will be due to the provost in October, 2011.

It should be noted that Dean Johnson's report is very thorough and detailed. The report has adequately summarized the essential elements of the program review findings, strengths, and recommendations. Therefore, the dean's report will serve as the administrative executive summary.