

2007-2008 Annual Program Review

Biology 7-12

Name of Program: Biology 7-12

List of Annual Program Reviewers: Michelle Rogers, Sallie Noel, Dr. Don Dailey

I. Assessment of Candidate

The data available for analysis is shown below.

Initial Licensure Completers, Fall 2007, Unit Certification Data
Science (including Biology)

Total students: 6

Male: 1

Female: 5

Majority: 6

Minority: 0

Milestone II Review, Biology 7-12, Fall 2007

Scored pass/fail

Total students attempting: 2

Total students passing: 2

Pass rate: 100%

Milestone II Review, Biology 7-12, Spring 2008

Scored pass/fail

Total students attempting: 3

Total students passing: 2

Pass Rate: 66.67%

Milestone IV Portfolio, Biology 7-12, Spring 2008

Scored developing, meets, exceeds

Total students attempting/passing: unknown

Devel: 0%

Meets: 100%

Exceeds: 0%

PRAXIS test score for 5 years, Biology 7-12

Test Name	# Passers	# Retakes before Passing	Avg. Score
Biology Cont. Essay	8	8	145.6
Biology Cont. Knowledge #1	14	1	162.4

Gen. Sci. Cont. Essay	5	2	137.1
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The lack of minority students among the six initial licensure completers for Fall 2007 may be a product of the small sample size and reasonably reflects the percentage of minorities in the population. Hopefully, with recruiting efforts and increasing numbers of students, the number of minority students will also increase.

Given the very small sample and limitations of the other data available, only the simplest conclusions may be drawn. One student out of five did not pass Milestone II. Students over the last five years have performed very poorly on the PRAXIS Biology Content Essay.

Short-term actions during the 2008-2009 academic year to improve candidate performance

We are not recommending any actions since the small sample sizes suggest no trends that can be used as a basis for recommendations.

Long-term action implications (specify tasks and timelines)

We are not recommending any actions since the small sample sizes suggest no trends that can be used as a basis for recommendations.

II. Assessment of Program Operations

The only data available that might show a trend relevant to the program is the number of failures on the PRAXIS Biology Content Essay test. Student performance is much better on the PRAXIS Biology Content Knowledge test. This may suggest that students are receiving inadequate training in writing about biology.

Short-term actions during the 2008-2009 academic year to improve program or specific courses

We are not recommending any actions since the small sample sizes suggest no trends that can be used as a basis for recommendations.

Long-term action (tasks and timelines)

We are not recommending any actions since the small sample sizes suggest no trends that can be used as a basis for recommendations.

III. Assessment System

What data do you need to better evaluate your candidates and/or program

If possible, the Unit Annual Program reviewers need PRAXIS Biology content essays **that have been graded** by the PRAXIS reviewers, along with any rubric or similar device used to assess them. This would allow us to investigate what knowledge or skills some students lack that has resulted in poor test performance.

How can the Teacher Education Unit Assessment System be changed to provide more meaningful and useful evidence regarding candidate performance and program operations?

We have no recommendations at this time.

