

Kinesiology Department 2013 Annual Assessment Update

1. Kinesiology Mission Statement and Student Learning Outcomes

A. Mission Statement

The Westmont College Kinesiology Department celebrates the whole person by focusing on an integrated, scientific approach to the study of the ability of the human mind and body to create and understand movement.

B. Student Learning Outcomes

As a department, we are intentionally involved with majors in a personal manner to encourage their social growth and cognitive learning. We strive to produce students who are capable and qualified for graduate studies in the allied health fields as well as other relevant fields. We expect to produce majors who are scientifically knowledgeable about body movement and informed on the connection between the mind and body in the physical, social and psychological realms. We endeavor to inculcate in our classes a scientific foundation, a personal sensitivity to human differences and the ability to teach and lead in a clear and decisive manner. As a Christian college, we want to instill in our students an admiration for the intricacies of the human mind and body and as a result cultivate love and awe toward the one and only Creator God, by whom we are fearfully and wonderfully made.

II. Follow-up on Action Items identified in previous reports

The Program Review Committee carefully evaluated our department's 2011-2012 Annual Assessment update. In that review, it was noted that our department's mission statement was clear, concise and aligned with college mission statement. The committee asked that this mission statement be posted on our KNS webpage and this has been done. The committee also questioned if the PLO's posted on the website aligned with the PLO's cited on the 2011-12 Annual Assessment update. The confusion was noted because the report listed 12 outcomes and on the webpage there were five. Finally, the committee asked for a more complete multi-year assessment plan that extends out six years. Our department is regularly engaged in this effort and we now have a plan that extends out four years.

III. 2013 – 14 Focus

As noted in our revised multi-year assessment report we are actively addressing our well-worn curriculum this year. The questions we are raising extend beyond the goal of making room for a required internship/research for all KNS majors. Currently, the Kinesiology department has the largest number of declared majors of all departments on campus. It is estimated that a requirement of this sort would mean placing about 40 students a year into research and/or internship programs. In our discussions we continue to consider various models for placing interns. This past June, we again offered internships at the Whitworth Costa Rica site. We placed nine of our KNS majors at this site. This internship site serves as an effective model for our students and we are encouraged to continue this program. Professor John Moore has provided oversight for this program and we are grateful.

The opportunity to establish additional internship sites is also being considered. Dr. Gregg Afman will be hosting a research internship opportunity in Bath, England this coming June and is already recruiting students for this experience.

Our department's size has also forced us to look at how often we teach our required major's courses and even how we teach them. As an example, we are anticipating over fifty students needing to take senior seminar this coming spring. This enrollment makes the notion of a seminar an impossible task and the reality that a class this size is not sustainable.

This fall we requested an additional FTE to offset our large department. Since 2007 our department has grown from 45 declared majors to a current count of 101 declared majors, which reflects an average annual growth rate of 15%. We currently advise 186 students, serving roughly 15.5% of Westmont's student body. Our core of faculty advisors average 27 advisees each. It is important to note that while we have realized a doubling in our declared majors over the past six years, our FTE has remained a constant 3.7. While we celebrate our growth and success as a department it is inevitable that our service to our students and our work as faculty members cannot be sustained.

Finally, our open search from last year was unsuccessful. To add, Glenn Town announced his retirement effective May 2014. This year the department will be searching for Glenn's replacement and curtailing the other search until the 2014-15 school year. Dr. Tom Walters has agreed to stay on an additional year as a full-time adjunct.

IV. Next Steps

Currently Westmont KNS is searching for the replacement of Dr. Town's position. This position has a research expectation as part of the job description. Dr. Afman is chairing this search.

Dr. Afman is actively recruiting students for the research experience this June in Bath, England.

We are also meeting regularly as a department where our entire curriculum is being evaluated and updated.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenn P. Town, Chair
Kinesiology Department
October 9, 2013

V. Appendices

A. Multi-Year Assessment Plan 2010 - 2015

Appendix A
MULTI-YEAR ASSESSMENT PLAN
KINESIOLOGY Department

Outcomes	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	Means of Assessment
1. Select majors will be able to read and interpret research and/or apply the scientific method.	X					In KNS 198, elective research students will execute and present a poster topic at the annual Science Symposium.
2. Majors will learn to measure the body's ability to adapt to the stress of exercise.	X					In KNS 105, students will conduct graded exercise tests (GXT) and analyze resulting data.
3. Majors will modify their diets to fall within the ADA guidelines for healthy eating.		X				In KNS 040, students will conduct Pre/Post course nutrition analysis; 80% of the students will fall within standards established by ADA.
4. Department to assess feasibility of establishing a required internship/research component to the major.			X			Surveyed KNS alumni regarding the value of an internship/research requirement. Established a Costa Rica internship site.
5. Assess the feasibility of KNS moving from the Social Sciences Division to the Natural Behavioral Sciences Division.			X			The request was submitted, vetted, and approved by Academic Senate and the Faculty for the change to be made in the 2013-2014 academic year.
6. Re-evaluate the entire KNS curriculum.				X		Focus discussions in Department meetings.