05-06 Assessment Reports

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Department: Civil Engineering

Mission: The mission, goals and objectives of the BSCE program are articulated as follows:
Mission: The mission of the Bachelor of Civil Engineering degree program is to provide an outstanding, practice-oriented education in civil engineering. Goal: The goal of the program is to educate students in an inspirational environment, enabling them to begin their professional careers as competent and thoughtful civil engineers.

Outcome: Objectives: The objectives of this program are to prepare graduates to: 1. succeed in professional employment and/or graduate study in civil engineering; 2. identify, analyze, and solve practical civil engineering problems; 3. apply knowledge of Environmental, Geotechnical, Structural, Transportation, and Water Resources Engineering to design of civil engineering projects; 4. communicate effectively with their peers, other professionals, decision makers, and the general public, in the conduct of their work; and 5. practice civil engineering in a professionally responsible and ethical manner. The objectives describe the features that are considered important in an outstanding practice oriented education in Civil Engineering.

Description: 1. Survey of graduating seniors and exit interviews 2. Employers/alumni interview (once a year) 3. Engineering-In-Training (EIT) test results. 4. Writing assessment

Date and Time: 2001 annually since then

Result: The results indicated the following: Placement of our graduates is excellent. Our graduates get multiple offers in engineering positions. The writing assessment indicated that there is a need to work with students on their writing skills. The department as a result started working with the Reading and Writing Coordinator. The department hired writing tutors (paid through private funds) to work with CE students. Faculty members are directing students to the writing coordinators. There are no data available for effectiveness of this program.

program_change: The curriculum was changed to introduce a class at the freshman level (CE001A/B, Civil Engineering Seminar). The purpose of the class is to introduce students to civil engineering practice (as required by ABET accreditation) and to improve students' communication skills. The students are required to write a weekly assignment reflecting on the presentation. Another course was added (CE146 - Civil Engineering Practice) as a required class. Again, this is in response to the need for integration of professional practice into the curriculum as required by ABET accreditation. This also came from the

procedure: We are in the process of developing an assessment method for the effectiveness of the writing tutors. CE001A/B is offered this semester for the first time. We are planning to gather the data from the writing assignments. Track student progress throughout the program.
academic_change: None, the new curriculum started this year.

Upcoming_year: The department started working with the National Council of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors (NCEES) to gather more detailed data, if possible. Currently, the students who take the EIT exam are not required to enter the school code. This makes analyzing the data limited since we do not get all the data for our students. Assessment of effectiveness of the new class CE001A/B.

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