

PROGRAM REVIEW STATUS REPORT

PROGRAM: Liberal Arts: Natural Science (Biology) Option

Date of update: 9 April 2013

Update provided by: Dr. Kenneth Thomas

IMPROVEMENT ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCE REQUESTS		STATUS OF ACTIVITIES AND REQUESTS	
DATE RECORDED	ACTIVITY OR RESOURCE REQUEST	DATE OF STATUS REPORT	STATUS
January 2008	Write laboratory safety procedures and enforce them	4/9/13	Lab Safety Procedures in place. Lab inspections currently continuing.
January 2008	Perform an analysis of curriculum, pedagogy, student preparedness, and student support	4/9/13	Science Club has been revived, and is running autonomously, with support from newly hired FT Biology Faculty Member. Student involvement includes outreach to local high schools, study groups have formed.
January 2008	Consider the needs for faculty for the LA/Biology option when new faculty are requested for the department as a whole	4/9/13	<p>Full time Biology faculty members are teaching significant portion of BIO 111/112 courses. Newly hired FT Evolutionary Biologist is developing ecology, and has plans to develop a biostatistical analysis course, and a genetics course. Plans underway to develop a research program involving undergraduates.</p> <p>Second FT Biology new hire is conducting independent research projects with second year Cell Biology students.</p>
January 2008	Update technology in the classrooms and laboratories	4/9/13	<p>Beams and new computers installed in biology laboratories on the Haverhill campus are functioning properly.</p> <p>Compound microscope installed in general biology laboratory (E354), to project using beam.</p>
January 2008	Renovate biology laboratories	4/9/13	MA Life Science Center Grant obtained by NECC for laboratory renovation of E-354, which is expected to occur during summer 2014.
January 2008	Add capital equipment line; increase overall budget and add lines for service and maintenance	4/9/13	Microbiology laboratory upgrade completed.

	contracts for major equipment		
January 2008	4 desktop computers with flat screen monitors for laboratories (Dell Optiplex 755 mini tower)	4/9/13	New computers in each of four biology labs are functioning properly with newly updated and installed software
January 2008	Install a venting system for the microbiology laboratory (and maybe the A&P II lab at the same time)	4/9/13	Ductless hood was installed and has increased air quality significantly by removing volatiles during microbiological processing.
April 2012	Revision of LA: Biology, Biology Electives	4/9/13	Held until LA:Bio Program Review Completed
April 2012	Revision of prerequisites for BIO 111 to include college level writing and math skills to improve success and retention in this course	4/9/13	Held until LA:Bio Program Review Completed
April 2012	Purchase and update Vernier LabQuest and CO2 probes to meet the demands of a 24 student laboratory		Two new Vernier Lab Quest 2 purchased for BIO 111 laboratory exercises