

Program Assessment Annual Report – Environmental Horticulture Science

Question 1: What was done on assessment this year? EXAMPLE: Based on our assessment plan, we evaluated program learning outcomes 2 (communication) and 5 (ethics) this year.

Data was collected and evaluated for program learning outcome 1 (content knowledge) this year. We also re-evaluated the outcomes, curriculum map, and schedule.

Question 2: What assessment data were collected? EXAMPLE: For the assessment of Communication, reports from our capstone course were collected, and a random sample of the reports was scored using our "effective communication" rubric. For the Ethics assessment, the ethics assignment in ECNS 482 was collected and a random sample was scored using the appropriate scoring rubric.

Students in the capstone course (HORT 486) were given a non-graded assessment tool over the required program content.

Question 3: What was learned from the assessment? EXAMPLE: Communications: While the majority of the aspects of communication on the scoring rubric scored at or above our threshold values, we identified a weakness in students' ability to organize a technical report. Ethics: Students scored above threshold values on all aspects of "ability to understand and use the profession's code of ethics".

The assessment tool is in the process of being scored. In scoring the first part of the assessment tool, it was noted that the tool needs refinement.

Question 4: How did you respond to the assessment results? EXAMPLE: Communications: Additional emphasis on organization of technical reports will be covered in our junior laboratory course, and our senior capstone course. Ethics: Our assessment indicated that no changes are needed regarding this learning outcome.

The outcomes, curriculum map, and schedule are being re-written as well as the comprehensive content assessment tool.