

ASSESSMENT PLAN

for

GRADUATE PROGRAM

**DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY and BIOCHEMISTRY
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY , HAYWARD**

LARRY G. SCHEVE
Graduate Coordinator

RICHARD T. LUIBRAND,
Chair
Department of Chemistry and
Biochemistry

Spring, 2003

INTRODUCTION

This assessment plan enumerates the assessment goals, methods, and criteria that have been developed by the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry to assess the Chemistry Graduate Program. The specific goals are presented in a logical and chronological order. Each goal is stated and then, a specific assessment method(s) is presented, followed by implementation of the assessment and assessment criteria. Importantly, this assessment plan is multifaceted and comprehensive. It will serve as an excellent tool to monitor both student and department performance.

It should be noted that the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry offers three different Graduate Program Options/Plans:

- 1) MS-Chemistry (Plan A -Thesis)**
- 2) MS-Chemistry (Option in Biochemistry; Plan A -Thesis)**
- 3) MS-Chemistry (Plan B -Comprehensive Examination)**

Therefore, assessment of each separate plan/option may vary.

ASSESSMENT GOALS AND METHODS

ASSESSMENT GOAL No. 1: STUDENTS APPLYING TO THE CHEMISTRY GRADUATE PROGRAM SHOULD HAVE SUFFICIENT PREREQUISITE ACADEMIC ABILITY AND TRAINING TO WARRANT ADMISSION INTO THE PROGRAM

The primary requirements for admission into the program are as follows: 1) possession of an undergraduate degree in chemistry equivalent to a chemistry degree earned from California State University, Hayward and 2) an upper division GPA of at least 2.6 in upper division chemistry and biochemistry courses. Therefore, students applying for admission into the program must have completed 1-year of calculus, 1-year of physics, 1-year of general/inorganic chemistry, 1-year of organic chemistry, 1-year of physical chemistry, 1-course in computers, and additional coursework in chemistry/biochemistry.

The graduate coordinator carefully reviews all student applications and transcripts. Applicants not meeting the above criteria are not admitted into the program. Specific recommendations to remove academic deficiencies (or to improve GPA) are stated to applicants who are denied admission into the program.

A detailed (10-page) letter is sent by the Graduate Coordinator to **all** newly-admitted chemistry graduate students as part of initial correspondence. This letter enumerates various Department and University requirements and regulations. The letter directs students to carefully read the University catalog for more detailed information. Chemistry placement exam requirements,

ASSESSMENT GOAL NO. 5:

CHEMISTRY GRADUATE SIUDENTS SHOULD BE PRESENTED WITH NEW

Plan B Chemistry graduate students are expected to complete Chemistry 6901 - Comprehensive Examination (2 units) as the "Capstone" project for the Masters Degree. This includes completion of a 20+page Review Paper, an oral exam over the review paper, and passing a comprehensive written exam over chemistry and/or bir thg2U6gaper, a
th-456 (th-456 (y exthetixam ov9 Tc 0.15 Tw () Tj -4(6 sapeeview p9per, and paam my

ASSESSMENT GOAL NO.10:

**CHEMISTRY GRADUATE STUDENTS SHOULD BE ABLE
TO PURSUE/SECURE A CAREER IN CHEMISTRY**

A simple (optional) survey will be administered by the Graduate Coordinator to graduating chemistry students. This survey will ask about present or planned employment in chemistry /biochemistry /biotechnology. It will also ask about present or anticipated additional graduate work in chemistry/biochemistry (Ph.D.-level) and about pursuit of additional pre-professional education (medicine, dentistry, pharmacy etc.). The results will be tallied by the Graduate Coordinator.