

2015-16 End-of-Year Report Academic Department Success Plan



Department: Social Work

Department Chair: Dr. Robert Guell, Interim Chairperson

Person Primarily Responsible for Preparing this Report:
Dr. Robert Guell

Please answer the following questions in two or three pages and submit to your Dean by October 3. Your Dean will review and advance to Academic Affairs by October 10¹ and will offer you feedback by Oct. 17. This report will help inform your 2016-2019 Student Success Plan update that will be due to your Dean by Nov. 4.

1. Specific accomplishments/achievements this past year (briefly explain using bullet points, noting any changed/adapted):

- Assessed curriculum and prepared changes to BSW to shorten time to degree
- Produced perpetual schedule with 9 FTE faculty that ensures we have the ability to execute the MSW and BSW curriculum in an accreditation-compliant fashion.
- Continued extensive community engagement and experiential learning
- Continued to post office hours
- Continued to offer BSW orientation
- Increased student participation in student presentations at conferences
- More than 90% of Junior admits to the major in the 2011, 2012, 2013 cohorts graduated in 2014, 2015, or 2016, so post-admission to the major advising is clearly working.
- Fall 2014 Cohort of Juniors (45 students) 40 graduated with a BSW in Spring or Summer 2016
- Fall 2015 Cohort of Juniors (58 students) 41 are on track to graduate in Spring or Summer 2017
- Constant updates have been performed for MYSAM and graduation check outs
- The requirements of the Transfer Single Articulation Pathway (TSAP) are met in the redesigned major to allow for seamless and timely graduation for transfer students.
- SOWK 480 classes average 15 students (the goal enrollment).

2. Objective/Actions Not Achieved (briefly explain using bullet points):

- Freshman Cohort retention (of latest department) remained below target (70%) and fell from 61% to 60%
- Failed to secure same number of Supplemental Instructors (SIs) due to cuts in that programs
- Failed to convince College office of the need to allow in-department advising of juniors and seniors (as articulated in the previous year's Student Success Plan.)
- We did not do a study on African-American graduation rates.
- We are clearly behind on faculty counts (6 MSW, 4 with PhDs; 2 FT faculty in BSW; 1 additional FTE in BSW faculty) as required by CSWE and as articulated in the previous year's plan.
- SOWK 498 and 499 exceeded goal enrollments (as articulated in the previous year's plan) per section (a consequence of faculty numbers) (498 enrollments at goal for Fall 16)

¹ Note that the Dean will request a refinement to the report if it is not suitably addressing the questions.

- 4. Do you see opportunity for this project to work more closely with another department, college, or unit such that greater impact might be possible (*briefly explain*)?**
- It would help considerably if the College advising plan would recognize the distinction between Pre-BSW and BSW undergraduate students. We would happily create an advising plan that would make the transition into the major seamless. Our goal of consistently advising students is compromised by the current college plan.
 - It would assist us if we could have a report generated (through ARGOs) that would allow the Chairperson to analyze Interim Grade data efficiently.
- 5. Is there anything else about your initiative you feel important to detail?**
- No. Our plan to monitor the success in our department is working (given our high graduation rate of admitted juniors).