



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

Department: Center for Science Education

Department Chair: Eulsun Seung, Director

Person Primarily Responsible for Preparing this Report:
Eulsun Seung

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):

- The number of enrolled students increased: 25 in Spring 2016 and 27 in Fall 2016
The enrollment goal for the 2014-2017 student success plan: 18 for Fall 2015 and 19 for Fall 2016.
- 4-year graduation rate increased: 50% (cohort total: 2 in Fall 2012, 1-year change: 37.5%)
- Did explicit degree audits when students complete 80 – 90 credit hours.
- Encouraged Science Education majors to use the Help Center for tutoring in their science courses.
- Supported science education majors to attend the state and national science teacher conferences.
 - HASTI conference, IN (Hoosier Association for Science Teachers, Inc.)
: Two students attended with two Science Education faculty members (February 4-5, 2016).
 - NSTA conference, TN (National Science Teacher Association)
: Five students attended with a Science Education faculty member (March 31 – April 3, 2016).
- Provided a Science Education Seminar: Invited two local, experienced science teachers as guest speakers. Eleven science education majors, one science major, and two Science Education and chemistry faculty members attended (October 22, 2015).
- Encouraged Science Education majors to join various activities run by the student organization. Science Education majors make connections with peers and increase their motivation to teach science.
 - Participated in the Night at the Museum event for local K-12 students (January 20, 2016)
 - Provided a Fun Science Afternoon event for the Boys and Girls Club in the Vigo County School Cooperation.
 - Taught ISU Summer Science Camp children (July 22, 2016).
- Provided a science education open house for science and science education majors every semester (September 17, 2015, February 25, 2016, September 6, 2016)
- Developed a new advertising flyer to inform science majors about the science education program. Posted this flyer in the science building and emailed it to all science majors in September, 2016.
- Sent an email to Science Education freshmen to briefly introduce our Science Education program in October, 2016.
- Created a spreadsheet of graduating seniors, whether teacher licensure was conferred, and place of employment.

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

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

- 1 year retention rate decreased: 1-year change: -1.79% (87.50% (cohort total 78) in Fall 2015, 85.71% (cohort total 7) in Fall 2016).
- Writing letters to accepted students to briefly introduce our Science Education program.
- Visiting freshmen science classes (Biology 101/102 and Chemistry 105/106) and pre-requisite education classes (e.g., EPSY202 and EPSY341) to provide information about the science education program and recruit for our major.

3. Looking ahead, briefly describe changes, additions, or subtractions that need to be made to your goals and/or action steps, including with respect to their linkage to student learning outcomes.

Additions

- Conducting exit survey during the final semester prior to graduation to evaluate the Science Education program.

Subtractions

- Visiting freshmen science classes and pre-requisite education classes to provide information about the science education program and recruit for the major.

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)?

- Science Education student organization plans to collaborate with Elementary Education majors to provide a science event for local K-12 students.
- The Science Education student organization will collaborate with other student groups in Biology, Physics, and Earth and Environmental Systems.

5. Is there anything else about your initiative you feel important to detail?

The current Science Education curriculum, which was developed in response to REFA (i.e., state licensure rules), requires that our majors meet or exceed the existing science majors' coursework on campus. Because of this challenging curriculum, the number of our majors has decreased over the past several years. Considering the shortage of science teachers in Indiana, starting in Fall 2016, we offer an additional concentration (i.e., Middle School Science concentration) for those who only wish to pursue their middle school science licensure which covers grades 5-8. We also plan to revise the science content requirements for the Earth Space Science concentration so that candidates can complete their program within four years. We expect that these two concentrations will help increase and retain the number of our majors.