

Academic Department Student Success Plan Annual Update: 2016-2019¹



Department: Center for Science Education

Department Chair: Eulsun Seung, Director

Department Mission: To provide top quality, research-based programs and courses to prepare potential elementary, middle, and high schools science teachers for effective science teaching careers in Indiana and beyond. Our faculty will undertake research to create new knowledge for the academic community in Science Education, utilize research findings in teaching, and provide service and outreach for Science Education at all levels, including pre-K-12, college, and parent audiences.

Department Freshmen (1st year) Retention Goal(s):

To increase the retention rate to 93.0% for the Fall 2018 target

Action Steps² (with dates & person(s) responsible):

1. Write letters to accepted students to briefly introduce our Science Education program
 - Target date for completion: August 15, 2017
 - Persons responsible: Eulsun Seung
2. Meet with freshmen after they receive interim grades to check on their academic status, and introduce the Science Education curriculum and teacher licensing processes.
 - Target date for completion: October 15, 2017
 - Persons responsible: Eulsun Seung
3. Invite freshmen to an annual open house
 - : We offer an annual open house and invite all Sciences and Science Education majors in the Fall.
 - Target date for completion: September 30, 2017
 - Persons responsible: Eulsun Seung
4. Invite freshmen to Science Education seminars
 - : We provide Science Education seminars every year. The main purpose of these seminars is to provide our Science Education majors with useful information regarding required science and education courses, campus life, and science teaching careers. Science Education majors can also connect with local science teachers and other majors through these seminars.
 - Target date for completion: November 15, 2017
 - Persons responsible: Eulsun Seung
5. Provide consulting sessions for education courses
 - : During the semester, when students request consulting sessions for education courses, pair them with a senior level student to provide these sessions.
 - Persons responsible: Eulsun Seung

¹ Plan updates are due to your Dean by Nov. 4 as informed by your 2015-16 End-of-Year Report that is due to your Dean by Oct. 3.

²**Action Steps Defined:** The specific activities/actions taken to realize progress toward the goal. Such action steps should include not only student support type activities/actions but also student learning enhancement focused activities/actions.

6. Encourage freshmen to use the Help Center for tutoring in their science courses.
 - Target date: September 1, 2017
 - Person responsible: Eulsun Seung

<i>Retention Benchmarks</i> (by latest department)	Fall 2013Cohort: 100%	Fall 2014Cohort: 87.5%	Fall 2015target & actual: 87.0% & 85.7%
	Fall 2016target: 87.0%	Fall 2017target: 90.0%	Fall 2018target: 93.0%

Other Freshmen Retention related benchmarks of focal interest to department

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Department Persistence to Completion Goal(s):

1. To increase the completion rate to 37.0% for the Fall 2015 target
2. To increase the number of students completing the Science Education major to 6 by Fall 2018.

Action Steps (with dates & person(s) responsible):

1. Invite Science Education majors to an annual open house
 - Target date for completion: September 30, 2017
 - Persons responsible: Eulsun Seung
2. Email all Science Majors to encourage them to add our program as their second major
 - Target date: October, 2017
 - Persons responsible: Eulsun Seung
3. Provide Science Education seminars for majors
 - Target date for completion: November 15, 2017
 - Persons responsible: Eulsun Seung
4. Encourage Science Education majors to join the science education student organization. By participating in various activities run by the student organization, Science Education majors can connect with peers and increase their motivation to teach science
Possible activities to be run by the student organization
 - Providing a science night event for local K-12 students (March, 2017)
 - Providing a science afternoon event for local Boys and Girls club (November, 2017)
 - Teaching summer science camp children (July, 2017)
 - Persons responsible: Eulsun Seung
5. Encourage and support Science Education majors to participate in the SURE program
 - Target date for completion: May 1, 2017
 - Persons responsible: Eulsun Seung
6. Encourage Science Education majors to use the Help Center for tutoring in their science courses
 - Target date: Advising meeting
 - Persons responsible: Eulsun Seung
7. Do an explicit degree audit when students complete 80 – 90 credit hours
 - Target date: Advising meeting
 - Persons responsible: Eulsun Seung
8. Encourage Science Education majors to attend the science teacher conference
: HASTI (Hoosier Association of Science Teachers, Inc) conference, IN
 - Target date for completion: February 28, 2017
 - Persons responsible: Eulsun Seung
9. Conduct exit survey during the final semester prior to graduation to determine graduating seniors' career plans
 - Target date: May 15, 2017
 - Persons responsible: Eulsun Seung

10. Create a spreadsheet of graduating seniors, whether teacher licensure was conferred, and place of employment
- Target date: August 15, 2017
 - Persons responsible: Eulsun Seung

<i>Completion Benchmarks</i> (by latest department)	Fall 2010Cohort: 20.0%	Fall 2011Cohort: 0%	Fall 2012target & actual: 25.0% & 0%
	Fall 2013 target: 30.0%	Fall 2014 target: 35.0%	Fall 2015target: 37.0%

Other Persistence to Completion related benchmarks of focal interest to department

<i>Completion Benchmarks</i> (Number of all graduates)	Fall 2014official: 3	Fall 2015 official: 2	Fall 2016 official: 3
	Fall 2016 target: 4	Fall 2017 target: 5	Fall 2018 target: 6

Other Goal(s), Action Steps, and Benchmarks of focal interest to department:

1. To increase the number of Science Education majors who pursue a Middle School Science and Earth Space Science licensure
2. To recruit more Education majors to our Middle School Science minor program

Revising the curriculum for the Earth Space Science Concentration:

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 have begun offering 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 are also in the process of revising the science content requirements for the Earth Space Science concentration so that students can complete their program within four years. We expect that these two concentrations will help increase and retain the number of our majors.

Offering a Middle School Science Minor:

We will begin to offer a Middle School Science minor in Fall 2017. This minor is designed for Elementary Education or Secondary Education majors who want to add a middle school science licensure to their initial teaching licensure. This minor, in conjunction with an education major, and the appropriate state licensure tests will qualify the student to teach middle school science. This minor cannot be used as an initial instructional license. Without a teaching license, this alone will not satisfy requirements for teaching science in middle schools. Students who choose to add this second licensure will benefit from having a broader range of career opportunities as well as extra content for their resume.