

Northern New Mexico College
PROGRAM ASSESSMENT • PEER REVIEW FEEDBACK 2009-10

Department Engineering

Program Software Engineering

Date 12/2010

	(6) Commendable	(4) Acceptable	(2) Developing	(0) Under-developed
Mission	<i>The program mission defines the program's primary purpose(s), and is in explicit alignment with the departmental and College mission statements.</i>	<i>The program mission defines the program's primary purpose(s), and aligns in general with the departmental and College mission statements.</i>	<i>The program mission defines the program's primary purpose(s) but alignment to the departmental and/or College mission is either unclear or unstated.</i>	<i>The program mission is non-existent, or not stated in an acceptable format.</i>
<p>Score and comments (4/6). The mission statement is broad, inclusive, but wordy. It could be strengthened by shortening and focusing it. Explicit alignment to College's mission will help with accreditors, also.</p>				
Outcomes	<i>SLO's indicate knowledge, skills and dispositions; they align clearly to the program mission and mission of the College.</i>	<i>SLO's indicate two of three aspects of student learning; align clearly to program mission and College mission.</i>	<i>SLO's are stated but unclear regarding two or more aspects of student learning and/or connections to program and College missions.</i>	<i>SLO's are non-existent, not stated in an acceptable format, and/or do not align to program mission and/or College mission.</i>
<p>Score and comments (5/6). The outcomes appear to conform to ABET requirements. They could be strengthened by associating them to ABET standards, which could be uploaded in WEAVE, and to the College's general education competencies.</p>				
Measures & achievement targets	<i>Measures promise direct and indirect evidence of student learning; they are related to appropriate SLO's and have clear achievement targets.</i>	<i>Measures promise direct and indirect evidence of student learning; they relate to some but not all of the SLO's.</i>	<i>Measures exist but their relationships to the SLO's is unclear; they are incomplete and vague in addressing the SLO's.</i>	<i>Measures are non-existent or not stated in an acceptable format.</i>
<p>Score and comments (5/6). The measures offer a good mix of tests, homework assignments, performance-based rubrics, and surveys. Targets, for the most part, are consistent: students will perform at 70 percent or higher. Rubrics could be uploaded to the document repository and then hyper-linked to appropriate pages in WEAVE, which would "show" and thus strengthen the assessment work.</p>				
Findings	<i>Findings provide compelling student learning data that follow details spelled out in the description of measures.</i>	<i>Findings include references to some (but not all) measures, and indicate extent to which most but not all SLO's were met as well as need for further actions (as appropriate).</i>	<i>Findings are initiated but incomplete; the overall sense of progress attained is hard to ascertain.</i>	<i>Findings are non-existent or not stated in an acceptable format.</i>
<p>Score and comments (1/6). This area offers a big opportunity for improvement. There are very little hard data! Much anecdotal discussion and judgments are in evidence. What's needed are data: semester, course, numbers of students, numbers who met targets, and class averages.</p>				
Action plan tracking	<i>Steps are spelled out with persons responsible and budget amounts as needed for implementing program improvements in ways that related compellingly to assessment findings.</i>	<i>Steps are spelled out for implementing program improvements in ways that address some of the assessment findings.</i>	<i>Steps are spelled out for implementing program improvements in ways that address one or two of the assessment findings.</i>	<i>There are no action steps listed.</i>
<p>Score and comments (1/6). Those action plans in place are not linked compellingly to the findings, which need greater clarification and development. This area, also, needs work. If students are having trouble, as is stated in some of the narratives in the findings, the action plans here ought to be addressing them.</p>				

Continued below

Overall comments

3.2 overall. Between developing and acceptable. The mission, outcomes, measures, and targets are fine. But there is a significant opportunity to improve the plan's findings. Without improvements in findings, it is impossible to develop clear and compelling action plans for improvements, and thus complete the assessment loop, which is essential for ABET and HLC accreditation. Moreover, there is much judgmental commentary, which can and should be eliminated. These areas ought to be improved ASAP.