

Charge of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry Assessment Committee

Mission/Purpose:

The committee works to assess outcomes of department curriculum and research activities in support of gaining contemporary knowledge of concepts, models, and techniques among students in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry programs.

Department assessment activities intend to further the goals of the Department by:

- Providing feedback to achieve excellence in education in chemistry and biochemistry through superior teaching,
- Providing data to validate the practices on innovative instruction for all students
- Providing an environment supportive of educational research and scholarship including close collaboration among faculty and students,
- Providing support for the missions of the College of Natural and Social Sciences and the University through the involvement of its faculty and students,
- Moderating discussion of criteria for successful student achievement levels to achieve a consensus between department faculty, and
- Evaluating how well the Department and Faculty achieve the Department vision and suggesting directions for improvement.

The committee recommends assessment policies and actions for department approval.

Scope:

1. The committee develops assessment tools, and reviews and disseminates results to inform department decisions, program review and curriculum improvement. All results will reflect overall student achievement. Both students and instructors will remain anonymous.
2. The committee recommends the specifics of the assessments (e.g., what to assess, how to assess, when to assess, who will assess, etc.) to the department.
3. Non-committee members in the Department (either requested by the committee or self-initiated) may recommend specific strategies to conduct assessment and the committee can recommend department members to participate in assessment activities.
4. The committee may develop assessment tools upon request of specific Department faculty or groups.

MISSION STATEMENT, DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY AND BIOCHEMISTRY (adopted 2008)

Vision

The department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at CSULA will be a top choice for freshmen and transfer students interested in molecular science in the Los Angeles basin. Our graduates will be highly sought after by graduate and professional schools, teacher training programs, and government and industrial laboratories.

Values

We believe that teaching and research are synergistically interwoven, and that the department's longstanding tradition of excellence in classroom instruction is enhanced by its undergraduate and graduate research activities.

Mission

- To provide excellence in education in chemistry and biochemistry through superior teaching and innovative instruction in small class settings for all students
- To provide an environment supportive of research and scholarship including close collaboration among faculty and students
- To provide support for the missions of the College of Natural and Social Sciences and the University through the involvement of its faculty and students