



Date: March 31, 2015

To: Stephen E. Fritz
Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

From: Scott Furlong
Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Re: Report on the Chemistry Program Review

I have examined the Self-Study Report prepared by the faculty in Chemistry, as well as the Program Review conducted by the Academic Affairs Council. Based on my examination of these materials I recommend continuation of the Chemistry program. Specific comments that I made to the faculty include the following:

1. The program's majors has averaged around 50 for the past five years, which is a bit down from the past review. The number of minors is also down. The self-study notes that given the high number of credits required for the Chemistry major along with the requirement for an interdisciplinary major/minor likely hinders many students from majoring in the Chemistry program. The program provides many courses for the Human Biology program.
2. The AAC review noted a high amount of ad hoc and overloads. I did provide an additional Chemistry faculty line this past year, which should help address this concern to some extent. I also provided some other thoughts regarding trying to manage resources through curricular changes.
3. There are ongoing equipment needs for the program that can not be fully addressed with existing resources.
4. Many of the faculty of actively involved in research and grant work.
5. The program has a good set of learning outcomes, and a number of techniques as part of an assessment plan. In addition, they have made curricular revisions as a result of what they have learned through assessment.

360° OF LEARNING

6. Curricular changes have been minimal since the last review. They continue to do good work in promoting undergraduate research opportunities.

Cc: John Katers, Chair NAS
John Lyon, Chair Chemistry
Franklin Chen and Steven Kimball, Co-Chairs AAC