Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

Detailed Assessment Report
2008-2009 Ph.D. Coastal Marine System Science

Mission/Purpose

The Mission of the Coastal and Marine System Science (CMSS) degree program is to prepare the next generation of coastal and marine system scientists to meet the complex challenges of the twenty-first century. The CMSS program integrates traditional disciplines to create a holistic understanding of coastal and marine environments and related policies. Interdisciplinary approaches are used to analyze, model, manage, and predict behavior of natural systems. Students discover, apply, and communicate information related to complex and dynamic coastal and marine systems.

Student Learning Outcomes, with Any Associations and Related Measures, Achievement Targets, Findings, and Action Plans

O 1: Acquire system science skills.
1. Students will acquire the technical skills required for system science studies applied to coastal and marine topics so that they are prepared to conduct CMSS original research.

O 2: Students perform original research.
2. Students will perform original and hypothesis-driven quantitative analyses that will lead to comprehensive verifiable models of natural systems.

O 3: Develop communication skills.
3. Students will develop the skills necessary to present and publish their work at national and international venues.

O 4: Students develop teaching skills.
4. Students will develop the skills necessary to teach effectively a college level class in the area of Sciences and Technology.

Details for Action Plans Established This Cycle

Travel funds - External members of Ph.D. committees
Many Ph.D.-graduate advisory committees have external members as the local pool of qualified faculty in any one subfield of CMSS is limited. We need to provide travel funds to a minimum of 2 external committee members per year.

Priority: High
Target Date: 09/2009
Institute travel funds for external members of Ph.D. - graduate advisory committees

Responsible Person/Group: Mirley Balasubramanya+Paul Montagna

Additional Resources Needed: Travel funds for external members of Ph.D. - graduate
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<td><strong>Budget Amount Requested:</strong> $4000</td>
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