

INDIANA UNIVERSITY SOUTH BEND
EXTERNAL PROGRAM/ACCREDITATION REVIEW
SUMMARY

Unit/Program: Department of Psychology
Reviewer: Walter Wagor
Year of Site Visit: 2006

Unit/Program Strengths Cited by Reviewer:

- The department is well run with strong faculty involvement and departmental leadership.
- Faculty research productivity is generally in line with 3/3 teaching load. Faculty recognized for quality of teaching.
- The department has adequate research facilities.
- The undergraduate curriculum has a strong science orientation and provides good research and graduate school preparation.
- The administration is supportive.
- The department enjoys good relationships with health sciences and education.
- The department is actively engaged in the assessment of student learning.
- The department has access to a very good group of community professionals that serves as part-time faculty.

Reviewers' Recommendations for Continued Unit/Program Improvement:

- The effects of the new general education curriculum on the department must be carefully monitored. Lower enrollment limits for B190 than for P103 may create staffing problems for the department.
- Department needs to clarify the expected outcomes of an undergraduate psychology degree.
- The future of graduate education in the department must be resolved. The department should consider an Applied Behavioral Analysis program to replace the current one.
- Areas of discontent with respect to student advising must be addressed. The department should explore alternatives to the current approach.
- The department should consider if the emphasis on preparation for graduate school in the undergraduate curriculum is meeting the needs of current students.
- The department should explore ways to help the part-time faculty connect to the department and the campus.
- Significant fence-mending, trust-building, and communication improvement is needed between the department and the IRB.