

END OF YEAR REPORT FORMAT FOR ANNUAL ASSESSMENT 2015-2016

Unit Name	Biology
Goal 1	Enhance and increase learning opportunities for students
Strategic Initiative(s) (Choose from priorities 1-5)	<p>1. Access with Excellence Gordon State College will serve the educational needs of the region and the state by maintaining its mission as an access institution, while expanding to offer wider access to baccalaureate programs and assuring excellence in its offerings and service to its constituents. By maintaining access while expanding programs, Gordon State College will open the doors to a college education to a wider audience, resulting in a more educated Georgia.</p> <p>2. A Diverse Academic Environment Gordon State College will advance the academic work of the College and the resources that support it. The synthesis of the intellectual, cultural and material resources of the campus community will support the development of effective habits of mind for all participants. The College will support the physical, technological and pedagogical resources needed to achieve this goal. This focuses resources and energies on the core educational mission of the College, and promotes the ongoing development of all of the College’s stakeholders through strategic allocation of resources.</p> <p>3. Retention, Progression, and Graduation Gordon State College will increase retention (the number of students that are retained from one year to the next), graduates (the number of students who graduate from two-year and four-year programs), and the number of students who progress from Gordon State College to the next appropriate step (such as transfer to another college). By accomplishing these goals, the College will contribute to a more educated population, prepared to face the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century.</p>
Time Frame	2015-2016
Objective 1	Revitalize the Greenhouse-Fall 2015
Measures 1	A year round ecology and plant biology program for students.

Target (Desired Performance and Deadline) `	Complete work prior to winter season and freezing temperatures by December 2016
Data Collection (Who/Where/When)	Lab manager: Dec 2016
Findings & Status	Complete and on-going
Discussion of Results and Action Plan	Dr. Joyce Klaus will teach Plant Biology (BIOL 3600). Course has not been taught in 10 years. Ecology lab is ungraded.
Target (Desired Performance and Deadline) 2	Add a plant biology course where students can learn inside the classroom and apply what they learn inside the greenhouse by fall 2016
Data Collection (Who/Where/When)	Chair, Tracking Dec. 2016
Findings & Status	A Plant Biology course has been developed and will be available for enrollment beginning Fall 2016.
Target (Desired Performance and Deadline) 3	Purchase instructional supplies by July 2016
Data Collection (Who/Where/When)	Lab manager/chair: July-Dec 2016
Findings & Status	On-going
Discussion of Results and Action Plan	Budget allocated.
	Supplies have been ordered for BIOL 3600 and BIOL 3500. The Plant Biology (BIOL 3600) is reporting full for Fall 2016.
Objective 2	Increase external internship opportunities for our students
Measures 1	The number of students participating in the external Internship projects at industries and research laboratories
Target (Desired Performance and Deadline)	Increase the number of students participating in the external research projects by 10%
Data Collection	Tracking data: Written evaluation

(Who/Where/When)	Chair; Tracking data July 2016
Findings & Status	Complete and will be continued for AY 2016-2017
Discussion of Results and Action Plan	We received excellent report by participants at the research site.
Measures 2	The number of students participating in the external Internship projects at industries and research laboratories
Target (Desired Performance and Deadline)	Increase the number of students participating in the external research projects by 10%
Data Collection (Who/Where/When)	Chair; Tracking by Institutional Research – July 2016
Findings & Status	On-going
Discussion of Results and Action Plan	An internship agreement document is in place. Evaluation tool will be introduced Dec. 2016. Interns presented their experiences at scheduled seminars in the department. We met our target for AY 2015-2016.
Goal 2	Increase the number of students graduating with a baccalaureate degree in biology
Strategic Initiative(s) (Choose from priorities 1-5)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Access with Excellence Gordon State College will serve the educational needs of the region and the state by maintaining its mission as an access institution, while expanding to offer wider access to baccalaureate programs and assuring excellence in its offerings and service to its constituents. By maintaining access while expanding programs, Gordon State College will open the doors to a college education to a wider audience, resulting in a more educated Georgia. 2. A Diverse Academic Environment Gordon State College will advance the academic work of the College and the resources that support it. The synthesis of the intellectual, cultural and material resources of the campus community will support the development of effective habits of mind for all participants. The College will support the physical, technological and pedagogical resources needed to achieve this goal. This focuses resources and energies on the core educational mission of the College, and promotes the ongoing development of all of the College's stakeholders through strategic allocation of resources.

	<p>3. Retention, Progression, and Graduation Gordon State College will increase retention (the number of students that are retained from one year to the next), graduates (the number of students who graduate from two-year and four-year programs), and the number of students who progress from Gordon State College to the next appropriate step (such as transfer to another college). By accomplishing these goals, the College will contribute to a more educated population, prepared to face the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century.</p>
Time Frame	2015-2016
Objective 1	Increase the number of students declaring a major in biology
Measures 1	Number of on-campus events; degree of faculty participation; number of enrollments in gateway courses.
Target (Desired Performance and Deadline) 1	Offer on-campus advising events – 3 per year
Data Collection (Who/Where/When)	Institutional Research, Department’s tracking data: 2016-Sept. Complete/Met
Findings & Status	On-going
Discussion of Results and Action Plan	There has been increased number of students declaring majors than previous years- more than 10%.
Target (Desired Performance and Deadline) 2	Increase faculty participation in local science fair competition/community service projects by 10%
Data Collection (Who/Where/When)	Institutional Research, Dept’s tracking data
Findings & Status	Met
Discussion of Results and Action Plan	We increased our group advising sessions to 2. We attended college/career fairs.
Target (Desired Performance and Deadline) 3	Increase total enrollment in Gateway courses (BIOL 1, BIOL2, BIOL3 and Senior Level Courses) by 10%

Data Collection (Who/Where/When)	Institutional research: Dept's tracking data. Registrar's office.
Findings & Status	On-going
Discussion of Results and Action Plan	Due to increase in students declaring majors in Biology, we have an increase in enrollment for Biology 1107, 1108 and the upper-level courses.
Target (Desired Performance and Deadline) 4	Attend recruiting events – 2 per year
Data Collection (Who/Where/When)	Registrar's office: Department's tracking.
Findings & Status	On-going
Discussion of Results and Action Plan	Group advising sessions have led to increase in enrollment in the Gateway Courses.
Objective 2	Increase number of students graduating from baccalaureate program and gaining acceptance into graduate schools.
Measures 1	Number of graduates
Target (Desired Performance and Deadline) 1	Increase the number of freshmen and sophomore progressing to the junior and senior levels by 10%
Data Collection (Who/Where/When)	Institutional Research, Department's tracking- June 2016.
Findings & Status	On-going
Discussion of Results and Action Plan	Our group advising sessions and collaborating with local high school counselors.
Target (Desired Performance and Deadline) 2	Increase the percentage of students graduating yearly by 10% annually.
Data Collection (Who/Where/When)	Institutional Research, Registrar's Office.
Findings & Status	On-going

Discussion of Results and Action Plan	We met our target numbers for AY 2015-2016. Had combined graduating class of 48 students.
Measure 2	Number of students admitted into Graduate Schools
Target (Desired Performance and Deadline)	Juniors/Graduating seniors- May 2016
Data Collection (Who/Where/When)	Institutional Research, Department's tracking data
Findings & Status	Acceptance rate of our students to Graduate and Professional Schools increased in 2016. 4 students accepted into Pharmacy Schools. 3 students accepted into Medical Schools. 3 are still pending admission.
Discussion of Results and Action Plan	We have established formal and informal arrangements with Graduate/Professional Schools' counselors/faculty/administration. The University of the South signed a formal agreement to facilitate entry of our graduates into the Health Professions School. We intend to attend recruitment fairs at the Graduate/Professional Schools and invite their representatives to the GSC Recruitment day.