**Executive Summary of Program Assessment**

*The summary should be no more than three pages.*

**Campus:** UMSL

**College or School:** College of Arts and Sciences

**Academic Unit:** Criminology and Criminal Justice

**Date Submitted:** 06/22/13

**Person(s) Responsible for the Success of the Program:** Finn-Aage Esbensen

**Submitted by:** Patricia Okker, Faculty Fellow for Program Assessment and Accreditation, Office of the Provost

**Degree Programs Reviewed**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Degree (e.g., BS, MA, PhD)** | **Program** | **Enrollment** | **Number of Degrees Awarded** |
| **Most Recent Fall Semester****(*2011*)** | **5-Year Fall Semester Average** | **Most Recent Academic Year*****(2012*)** | **5-Year Average** |
| **BS** | Criminology and Criminal Justice | **472** | **421** | **94** | **110.2** |
| **MA** | Criminology and Criminal Justice | **52** | **38.6** | **20** | **12** |
| **PhD** | Criminology and Criminal Justice | **26** | **25.6** | **3** | **3.8** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Changes Since Last Review**

*Describe any significant changes that have occurred in the program since last review.*

At the last review the Department had 13 TT faculty members, one NTT faculty member, and one Administrative Associate. In spite of the fact that since the last review we have seen a double digit increase in student credit hours (SCH), undergraduate majors, and MA students, at the time of the current review, we have 11 TT faculty, three NTT (one teaching faculty and two research faculty funded on federal grants), and two administrative staff members. Two TT assistant professors have been offered positions and plan to join the Department in AY2012. The addition of Amanda Porterfield (Administrative Assistant) has greatly eased the administrative functioning of the Department, a concern noted in the last review.

**Strategies or Plans for Improving Program**

*Describe steps, taken and planned, for ways to improve program or to adopt novel approaches. If reallocating resources or program emphasis, describe what steps are being taken to ensure that the quality of the program is not compromised.*

The Department takes pride in its teaching effectiveness at all levels of instruction; all faculty members are involved in both undergraduate and graduate instruction. In addition to encouraging innovative teaching (as evidenced by the Department’s introduction of on-line courses, development of an introductory level course – Violence in America – which is team-taught by the entire faculty under the guidance of one lead instructor, participation in the new Bachelor of Liberal Studies on-line program, and implementation of the CCJ major on-line), the Department regularly invites national and international scholars to speak to our students. In the past five years, 39 scholars from across the country (as well as several international guests) have spoken at CCJ sponsored events on campus.

Over the course of the past five years, the Department has increased its SCH, the number of undergraduate majors, and enrollment in the MA program. The Department has experienced an overall increase in student credit hour generation for undergraduate majors, undergraduate service courses, and graduate classes. Two years ago (AY 2009), the Department developed a strategic plan (at the request of the then newly hired Dean of CA&S). Two of our stated goals were to increase undergraduate enrollment and increase enrollment in our MA program. Compared with the SCH in 2009, it appears that our efforts to increase enrollments have been successful. Undergraduate major SCH have increased 20.8%; UG service SCH have increased 26.2%; graduate SCH have increased 18.8%; and overall SCH have increased 22.6% in the past two years. We have achieved these increases by 1) offering an increasing number of on-line courses (which are extremely popular), 2) increasing class sizes, and 3) offering multiple sections of popular courses. At the graduate level, we may well have benefitted from the recent economic situation in that we have witnessed not only an increase in graduate applications but a marked improvement in the overall qualifications of these applicants. As a consequence we have almost doubled the size of our MA cohorts, which has resulted in a need to offer more graduate courses.

Over the course of the past five years, the department has steadily increased the development and offering of on-line courses. We attempt to provide a variety of on-line courses each semester and effective next year (AY2012), a student will be able to complete the CCJ requirements for a BS degree on-line.

The Department is also participating in the Bachelor in Liberal Studies on-line program by scheduling on-line course offerings that meet the needs of students minoring in CCJ.

To insure adequate computing resources for Ph.D.-level students, we have implemented a strategy for replacing grad student computers and have established a policy of monitoring and upgrading computers on a regular basis.

**Other Comments**

*If desired, include additional comments about program.*