To: Department of Physics
From: COAS Assessment Committee
Subject: 2019-2020 Assessment Report Feedback
Date: March 7, 2020

The COAS Assessment Committee has received and reviewed the assessment report submitted by the Department of Physics. Our comments below follow a rubric derived from the revised Senate Document 15-6 Appendix D.

Section I: Clearly Stated Programmatic Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

The committee commends the clarity of the SLOs. The SLOs are student centered and active.

Section II: Alignment of SLOs with IPFW Baccalaureate Framework

The alignment of SLOs with the PFW Baccalaureate Framework is complete and clear.

Section III: Student Learning Outcomes Mapped to Planned Learning Experiences in the Academic Program (Curricular Map)

The committee commends the clarity of the SLOs mapped to the learning experiences of students in the program.

Section IV: Systematic Method for Measuring Progress Toward Accomplishment of SLO

The committee acknowledges 3 measures were used including a standardized test, assessment of projects, and assessment of presentation in the senior thesis class. The committee also notes that exit interview were not able to be collected given the disruption of the pandemic.

The committee notes a concern with methodology of assessment in this report. They note that no clear rubric is referenced in assessing the learning outcomes assessed in PHYS 346. The committee encourages the development of standardized rubrics for assessment.

The committee noted that while Pre/Post testing is noted as a measure no data is presented nor any interpretations.

Section V. Reporting Results - Communication

The committee appreciates the summary of each assessment.

One note here, there appears to be an error in the report. The report suggests that exit interviews were not completed but does present data based on exit interviews. Some clarification on this matter would be illuminating.

Section VI: Reporting Results – Stakeholder Involvement

The committee notes that the department uses the data to work on continual revision of the program. However, in this section the committee also notes that no stakeholders are were identified. The committee suggests finding external stakeholders or to make those you already have more explicit in this report.

Section VII: Use of Results for Programmatic Change to Improve Student Learning, Achievement and Success

The committee acknowledges changes for future assessments and suggests that the department clearly state which results related to SLOs lead to necessary change. The committee is also interested in how the data presented here will influence future assessment plans.