Animal Science BS

Goal 1- Professional Marketplace Skills

Goal Description:

Students earning a BS in Animal Science will have the skills necessary to seek initial job placement as they begin their professional careers.

Providing Department: Animal Science BS

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS -

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Goal 1- Objective 1: Job Application and Interview Skills
Learning Objective Description:

Students will demonstrate job application and interview skills.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Goal 1- Objective 1. Indicator 1: Professional Employment Portfolio in AGRI 4120
Indicator Description:

This course focuses on essential skills vital for workforce entry, covering resume preparation, interview skills, technical writing, and job search strategies. During this assignment, students craft job application materials and respond to inquiries related to real animal science job openings curated by the faculty. These materials are compiled into a portfolio, with a total value of 100 points, comprising 20 points for the application, 35 points for the cover letter, and 45 points for the resume.

Criterion Description:

Building on the continued importance of professionalism in securing post-graduation employment, the criterion for the upcoming cycle is that a minimum of 70% of students achieve a proficiency level of 70% or higher for the portfolio as a whole. This adjustment eliminates the use of a rubric and streamlines the assessment process, emphasizing a holistic evaluation of students' portfolio performance.

Findings Description:

Out of the 53 students in the class 48 (or 90.5%) scored a 70% or higher in their portfolio submission.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Action 1.1.1 - Professional Employment Portfolio in AGRI 4120
Action Description:

Because 90% of students scored better than the goal set for the previous year, we would like to increase the goal for the coming year. This coming year we would like 70% of students to score 80% or higher on their portfolio.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Goal 1: Objective 1. Indicator 2: Phone and Face-to-Face Interviews in AGRI 4120
Indicator Description:

As part of AGRI 4120, a course mandatory for all Animal Science upperclassmen, students are required to undergo phone and face-to-face interviews with animal science faculty. Interview skills are evaluated by the faculty. Each interview carries a weight of 100 points.

Criterion Description:

Our expectation is that, during the assessment, a minimum of 70% of students will attain an average proficiency level of 70% or higher in their phone and face-to-face interviews. Recognizing areas for improvement from previous cycles, the goal remains consistent, reflecting our commitment to continually enhancing students' interview skills and overall professional development.

Findings Description:

Out of 53 students in the class, 51 (or 96%) scored a 70% or higher on both their face to face and phone interview.

Action 1.1.2 - Phone and Face-to-face Interviews in AGRI 4120

Action Description:

Because our students outperformed expectations with 96% scoring higher than a 70% on both their face to face and phone interview, for the coming year we will increase standards to 70% of the students scoring an 80% or higher on both their phone and face to face interviews.

Goal 1- Objective 2: Professional Online Identity

Learning Objective Description:

Students will develop a professional online identity.

Goal 1- Objective 2. Indicator 1: LinkedIn Profiles

Indicator Description:

All students seeking a degree in Animal Science are required to complete AGRI 4120 as upperclassmen. During the completion of this course all students must develop a professional online identity using LinkedIn.

Criterion Description:

Our expectation is that 70% of students will attain a proficiency level of at least 70% or higher on their LinkedIn profile assignment.

Findings Description:

Out of 53 students in the class, 43 (81%) scored at least a 70% or higher on their Linked In profile assignment.

Action 1.2.1 - LinkedIn Profiles

Action Description:

Because 81% of students scored a 70% or better we were able to reach our goal for the previous semester. As a result we wish to increase this goal to 80% of students scoring a 70% or higher on their LinkedIn assignment in the coming year.

Goal 2- Mastery of Key Disciplinary Knowledge

Goal Description:

Students will exhibit mastery of key disciplinary knowledge in animal science and animal production.

Providing Department: Animal Science BS

Goal 2- Objective 1: Advanced Animal Science Knowledge

Learning Objective Description:

Students will develop factual and fundamental knowledge relative to the science of domestic livestock. Upon completion of the course, students will be able to apply the gained factual and fundamental knowledge relative to animal science and apply the information regarding animal nutrition and management.

Goal 2- Objective 1. Indicator 1: Assessment of Knowledge Mastery in ANSC 3373

Indicator Description:

All students enrolled in the Animal Science program must complete Animal Nutrition (ANSC 3373), an advanced animal science course that explores fundamental concepts of nutrition and management crucial to the field. This course imparts knowledge considered essential for all animal science graduates. The assessment methodology has shifted from embedded test questions to comprehensive assessments.

Criterion Description:

In light of recent changes, including the introduction of prerequisites (chemistry 1406 and a "C" or better in ANSC 1319), the assessment approach has transitioned. The objective is for a minimum of 70% of students to attain a proficiency level of 70% or higher in their assessments. This change reflects our commitment to a broader evaluation of student performance, moving away from specific question scores and aligning with evolving program requirements.

Findings Description:

In the 4 exams given in ANSC 3373 50% were able to score a 70% or higher on Exam I, 38% on Exam II, 53% on Exam III, and 60% on Exam IV. Only 24% of students were able to score a 70% or higher on all exams.

Action 2.1.1 Assessment of knowledge mastery in ANSC 3373

Action Description:

As no exams reached the 70% of students reaching a 70% or better, that will remain our goal for the coming year. Nutrition is a course where we expect difficultly due to subject matter, but we will look into ways to improve exam grades and therefore success rate of students in the course.

Goal 2: Objective 2- Application of advanced Animal Production Knowledge

Learning Objective Description:

Students will demonstrate mastery of application of advanced animal production knowledge that are necessary for working in the animal science industries.

Goal 2: Objective 2. Indicator 1- Ration Formulation in ANSC 4394

Indicator Description:

All students enrolled in the Animal Science program must complete Animal Feeds and Feeding (ANSC 4394), which is an advanced animal science course. This course applies knowledge from earlier animal science courses and requires students to develop diets for production livestock. Students will develop an industry standard 2-ingredient diet during an exam.

Criterion Description:

At least 70% of students will demonstrate the ability to correctly balance a 2-ingredient diet.

Findings Description:

Of the 111 students in Animal Feeds and Feeding (ANSC 4394), 80 (72%) were able to correctly balance a 2 ingredient diet.

Goal 2: Objective 2. Indicator 1- Ration Formulation in ANSC 4394
Action Description:

As 72% of students were able to correctly balance a 2-ingredient ration, we have just reached the goal of 70% of students set at the start of the year. While this is above the goal set, it is only slightly higher. For the coming year we will aim for 75% of students correctly balancing a 2-ingredient diet.

Update to Previous Cycle's Plan for Continuous Improvement

Previous Cycle's Plan For Continuous Improvement (Do Not Modify):
Closing Summary

After reviewing the specific Goals/Objectives/Indicators of this program, the faculty in agriculture have determined that these items do not wholly reflect the needs and goals of our current students. As a result, we will reevaluate all Goals/Objectives/Indicators to better match the needs of our program and the students who are part of it. It is expected that this will require a deep look at what is considered success in this area and will likely cause significant change to the Goals/Objectives/Indicators for the coming academic year.

Update of Progress to the Previous Cycle's PCI:

The goals and objectives for the program were reworked this past year to better reflect the goals of the program. Now the focus is on both knowledge gain in key courses in the program as well as the soft skills of students such as presentation and interviewing skills. These assessments better focus on student completing their degree and being work force ready at the completion of their degree.

New Plan for Continuous Improvement

Closing Summary:

In some areas student beat expectations (presentation in 4120 and ration balancing) however they still fell short in regards to their performance in Nutrition. As a result we have raised expectations in the areas we have been successful in and will determine ways to improve student performance in our more difficult courses.