

## **DEPARTMENTAL SELF-ASSESSMENT**

The Self-Assessment has six sections and is designed to be a valuable exercise for departments going through Program Review. The purpose of the Self-Assessment is to explain trends in the field, describe the department's present situation and standing in the field, discuss strengths, areas for improvement, and evaluate the department in the context of broader academic objectives. The self-assessment should address issues specific to the department and include goals for the future. The document should cite/refer to the data from the data notebook to avoid unsubstantiated assertions. The Self-Assessment should be clear on how the department's plans for the future will evolve from its present situation into the future. Please note the required portions as indicated. The Self-Assessment should not exceed 30 pages.

### **THE INTRODUCTION**

The introduction should be brief, but is necessary to discuss the process of creating/drafting/ratifying the self-assessment.

To consider: drafted by chair and reviewed by department, drafted by one or more sub-committees and reviewed by department, based on discussion at department retreat, in consultation with the Dean, etc.

### **THE DISCIPLINE**

To consider: trends, subfields, the department's current positioning within the discipline, strengths/areas for improvement, funding, future of the discipline.

### **THE FACULTY**

To consider: productivity, influence, balance, diversity, workload, teaching specialities, research, funding, faculty governance, future retirements, optimal size, future needs.

### **GRADUATE PROGRAM**

To consider: attracting and funding students, diversity, retention, advising, assessment of program outcomes (required), curricular changes, research, career opportunities, optimal size, future needs.

### **UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM**

To consider: diversity, retention, advising, assessment of program outcomes (required), curricular changes, honors and underperforming students, undergraduate research, use of TA's, general education, graduation, career opportunities, future needs.

### **SUPPORT SERVICES**

To consider: advising, space, equipment, research, teaching environment, support staff, fundraising, gifts, endowments, future needs.

NOTE: Discussion of assessment of program outcomes is required in the Self-Assessment. For WASC Resources <https://www.wscuc.org/handbook/#6--quality-assurance-and-improvement--program-review--assessment--use-of-data-and-evidence>