

Dean response to Five Year LEAP Program Review

Comments contained in the CEA program review represent the evaluation of the CEA accreditation team based on a report prepared by the LEAP department. These comments identify areas for the LEAP Department and Office of International Programs to improve upon. The deadline given the department for responding to the CEA report is 10/1/2018.

Most of the issues identified by the CEA relate to the relationship between LEAP learning outcomes, assessment of learning outcomes, curriculum, and progression through the LEAP Program. Additional areas of concern include a lack of documentation of faculty and chair evaluations and plans for faculty development.

The LEAP faculty has noted in their responses that many of the concerns of the review team represent a problem of documentation, rather than a problem of neglect. Although learning outcomes are being assessed, this assessment is currently taking the form of in-class assessment related to class learning outcomes and this assessment is used to assign grades at the end of the semester. It is clear the accreditation team wants greater documentation regarding the link between program outcomes, class level outcomes, and student assessment of learning. The accreditation team would like additional information how assessment is impacting curriculum.

The LEAP faculty have provided reasonable responses to the accreditation team, and set forth a reasonable timeline to improve the link between program outcomes, curriculum and student learning. The October 1, 2018 deadline will be a challenge for the department as this really only gives the department a single semester to institute change that must be observed in the fall of 2018. Still, I believe the department has a clear plan to address these issues and will receive feedback on their efforts in a timely fashion.