

Evaluation Report for Program Review Face to Face Meeting

University of Wisconsin-Whitewater: Mathematics (BA, BS, BSE)

Majors and Minors, 2024-2025

Date: 2/28/2025

In Attendance: Provost John Chenoweth; Dean Jason Janke (L&S); Associate Dean Angela Harlan; Department Chair/ Program Coordinator Geetha Samaranayake; faculty and staff in the Mathematics program: Rachel Chaphalkar, Wesley Hough, Dulanjalee Devage Dona, Charce Rajapaksha, Hayley Bertrand, Dylan Spence; Program Review Team Chair Pascal Letourneau; Program Review team members James Collins, Molly Patterson; Assessment Representative Katy Casey

Discussion of Review Team's evaluation:

1 – Student retention strategies were described, but there was not a discussion of student retention issues, specifically in connection with the curriculum.

Student retention is not necessarily an issue past the Calculus course. Once students are in the program, they tend to stay.

The problem is more with student recruitment. However, faculty in the program are taking action. They have, for example, the math circle in Janesville high school to get in touch with prospective students.

There was a discussion about high credit to degree average. It turns out that most, if not all, students with high credits to degree are transfer students or students who switched majors.

2 – Share the department's plan to recruit and retain new faculty to the program considering the number of upcoming retirements.

Of course, being able to offer higher starting salaries would be beneficial. However, the program notes no real hiring issues. They get many applicants when a position opens, and they were successful in their hiring over the last few years.

Recommended Actions:

Recommended Action #1

Include a curriculum map in the assessment plan that includes where in the curriculum the content and skills in the SLOs are covered. In addition, describe assessment results for each SLO and explain the actions taken based on the department's analysis.

Recommended Action #2

Provide a more detailed analysis of the data on credits to degree. It was clear why some tracks (e.g., education) were higher, but not if other emphases carry a high credit load. In the next self-study, explain how the recent curricular changes in education licensure impacted the high credit load in this emphasis. Also, does the high credit to degree in some areas have an impact on student retention?

Recommended Action #3

Formalize a student recruitment plan.

Recommended Result:

Continuation with minor concerns

Next Self-Study and/or Progress Report Due Dates:

1 - Next FULL self-study will be due to the Dean on May 1, 2031 and to the Assessment Office on August 1, 2031

For a copy of the full evaluation report and detailed comments, please reach out to the assessment office: assessment@uww.edu.