

**Program Assessment Report
DBCALFS ANSC PhD Program
University of Arkansas
May 2017**

3. Student Learning Outcome #1:

Graduate students will demonstrate a basic knowledge of statistics, an in-depth knowledge of their specific thesis research area and a general knowledge of other research in the Department. Areas of emphasis may include animal nutrition, genetics, physiology, muscle foods, parasitology and forages.

A. Assessment Measure 1 – Indirect

- Completion of the dissertation and successful defense to the faculty.
- Results:
 - Thus far in the 2016-2017 Academic Year (fall and spring) there have been no students complete a dissertation defense or leave the program.

B. Assessment Measure 2 – Direct

- During the dissertation defense students will be assessed using a rubric by the faculty members serving on their respective graduate committees.
- Results:
 - This rubric has not yet been developed, so it is not yet being used.
- Recommendation:
 - The faculty needs to develop a rubric and use it at the conclusion of the student's defense or exit exam

4. Student Learning Outcome #2

Graduate students will demonstrate problem solving skills.

A. Assessment Measure 3 – Direct

- During the dissertation defense students will be assessed using a rubric by the faculty members serving on their respective graduate committees.
- Results:
 - This rubric has not yet been developed, so it is not yet being used.
- Recommendation:
 - The faculty needs to develop a rubric and use it at the conclusion of the student's defense or exit exam

3. Student Learning Outcome #3

Graduate students will demonstrate critical thinking skills and be able to organize, analyze, and apply scientific and technical information

B. Assessment Measure 4 – Direct

- During the dissertation defense students will be assessed using a rubric by the faculty members serving on their respective graduate committees.
- Results:
 - This rubric has not yet been developed, so it is not yet being used.
- Recommendation:
 - The faculty needs to develop a rubric and use it at the conclusion of the student's defense or exit exam

4. Student Learning Outcome #4

Graduate students will be able to communicate effectively in a) oral and b) written form.

B. Assessment Measure 5 – Direct

- During the dissertation defense, students will be assessed using rubrics for a) oral and b) written communication skills by the faculty members serving on their respective graduate committees.
- Results:
 - These rubrics have not yet been developed, so they are not yet being used.
- Recommendation:
 - The faculty needs to develop a rubric and use it at the conclusion of the student's defense or exit exam

5. Overall Recommendations

During the faculty retreat in August, rubrics for assessing the Student Learning Outcomes need to be developed and then used by the students' committees at the conclusion of defenses.

6. Action Plan

- **The Assessment Committee will develop the needed rubrics for assessing student outcomes.**