

**Annual Academic Assessment Report**  
**Department of Geosciences (GEOS)**  
**BS Earth Science (ERSCBS)**  
Aug 2023

**Report annually to the Dean of the college/school the following:**

- **Results of analysis of assessment of Student Learning Outcome**
  - Assessment and analysis of pre- and post-test results will be reported in a separate report related to Geosciences Core Course Assessments. There has been little change in the results of these tests over the past few years and are primarily focused on the introductory GEOS 1133 Earth Science general elective course. Graduate placement is tracked to the extent possible, and reported annually to our external advisory board. These data are tabulated in written reports to the advisory board since 2007.
  - Our external advisory board met and provided feedback on our programs in December 2022 and May 2023. They were supportive of the ERSCBS degree changes that have been submitted.
  
- **Graduation numbers 2022-2023**
  - In the 2022-2023 academic year, the ERSCBS program graduated 9 students (3 Dec 2022; 6 May 2023) compared to 8 in the previous academic year.
  
- **Any changes to degree/certificate planned or made on the basis of the assessment and analysis**
  - The curriculum committee and GEOS faculty submitted for UA approval a new EARSCBS program to align it better with emerging career and research tracks related to the environment, natural hazards, Earth's climate, and sustainability. These changes were designed after discussions with current and former

students, as well as faculty discussions. We see an opportunity to target a diverse population who may be interested in topics such as environmental justice and climate change. The updated program builds on Geosciences strengths in surface processes (e.g., geomorphology, hydrology, sedimentology), climate, geographic information systems, and Big Data. With the program change, we will shift and rename certain existing GEOS courses to align with the updated program, including adopting GEOS 4693 Environmental Justice as the capstone for the ERSCBS major and splitting the 6-hour Geology Field Camp into two 3-hour field camps with GEOS 3673 Environmental Field Methods required for ERSCBS students. We anticipate this update to be approved and available for students starting Fall 2024.

- **Any changes to the assessment process made or planned.**
  - GEOS 4693 Environmental Justice is planned to become the capstone for ERSCBS and will be reported with the Geosciences Core Course Assessments once adopted.