

# 2018-19 Biology and Health Science

## Department Instructional Program Review

Program Name: Biology and Health Science

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Academic Year: 2018 - 2019

### 2. Results of Previous Program Review

#### c. Student success and equity.

*Discuss what your program has done to address equity gaps between student populations and between modes of delivery (online, hybrid, and face-to-face), describing your successes, works in progress, and/or ongoing challenges.*

Student success in biology Distance Education (online classes) has been tracked for several rounds of Program Review. Historically, BIOL 100, BIOL 130 and HSCI 100 were the courses offered both on-campus (Traditional) and online (Distance Ed). Currently, the HSCI XLO course is the only HSCI section offered and is exclusively online. BIOL 310 Nutrition has recently been offered face-to-face for one semester. This course has been a very successful offering online, but only one traditional section has been successful. We are no longer offering traditional sections of HSCI 100 as they do not fill and have to be canceled. Several sections of online HSCI 100 are now consolidated into one HSCI 100 XLO section. The combined success rate for BIOL 100 and BIOL 130, the courses that have a history of being offered face-to-face and online, are 75% (online) compared to 46.2% for face-to-face sections. Each online course shows higher success than the paired traditional sections. Retention was higher online, 78%, for face-to-face sections by 75%.

The ethnic profile of students taking online courses is not the same as in traditional versions of the same course for all groups. The total number of students in some ethnic groups enrolled in online sections is too small to offer a legitimate success and retention comparison with traditional courses. PRIE reports show African Americans, Hispanics, and Pacific Islanders enrolled in fewer numbers in online classes, 43%, 11.6%, and 50% respectively for BIOL 100. In BIOL 130, 7.7%, 14.3%, and 5.3%, respectively. We have a distinct enrollment disparity with the African American students.

One way that we address equity gaps is by making all students aware of all the student support services available on campus the first week of instruction. Faculty teaching online sections hold campus and online office hours and offer students the possibility of using ConferZoom for an alternate communication mode if they cannot attend office hours. In the Canvas homepage for each course, there is also a direct link to NetTutor.