Provide an example of the program’s most interesting or important assessment finding that demonstrates the program’s success associated with a program learning outcome.

The assessment findings indicate that overall the students were making satisfactory progress in the program and meeting the required goals and learning outcomes. In particular students performed well in areas where they demonstrated and communicated an in-depth mastery of advanced concepts in Biological Sciences, i.e. through their course work and presentations. Completion of research projects to the level of submission/publication of research data continues to be recognized as an area for future improvement.

Describe an assessment result that indicates an opportunity for improvement and identify the specific actions the program will take to improve student learning.

We will continue to emphasize and reinforce the importance of experimental design and development of critical thinking and time mangagement skills. Initiatives, through curricular changes will be undertaken to strengthen students’ writing skills and emphasis on the publications of their findings prior to dissertation completion.