Physics
Graduate Learning Outcome Assessment Report 2017/18

1. Department/Program Mission

The mission of the Physics Department is to educate students in the fundamental principles and methods of physics. This education is offered to all S&T engineering and science students at the introductory level, principally to physics majors and minors at the intermediate level, and to graduate students at the advanced level. In addition, the faculty pursue research activities to educate the next generation of scientists and educators and to advance science and contribute to technical knowledge. In all these endeavors the department strives to provide a stimulating and challenging environment to provide all its students an excellent start toward their professional development and to help them attain their fullest potential.

2. Graduate Learning Outcomes (GLO)

a) Campus-Wide Student Learning Outcomes: Programs must demonstrate that their graduates have:
   I. Knowledge: An ability to apply knowledge of subject matter within their field of study,
   II. Communication: An ability to communicate effectively within their field of study,
   III. Critical Thinking: An ability to engage in productive critical thinking within their field of study,
   IV. Professional Development: An ability to develop professional within their field of study.

b) Additional Program Specific Student Learning Outcomes (Optional)

3. Methods and results

Results are averages based on the Graduate Learning outcome (GLO) standard campus rubrics for the comprehensive exam and the PhD defense. Numbers are reported on a five point scale (1,2 unsubstantiated/developing, 3 acceptable, 4,5 proficient/exceptional)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>(100% of students rate acceptable or better)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. Knowledge</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>(100% of students rate acceptable or better)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. Communication</td>
<td>4.3</td>
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<td>4.3</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV. Prof. Development</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>(100% of students rate acceptable or better)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. Results and Changes Implemented or Planned

All assessment results meet their stated goals. The results of this annual assessment of the graduate programs inform our continuous review of the curricula. Changes will be developed and their effectiveness will be evaluated in future assessment reviews.