Delta State University

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Aerospace Studies
Art
Audiology/Speech Pathology
Biological Sciences
* History
Languages and Literature
Mathematics
Music
Physical Sciences
Social Sciences
Social Work

* Revisions not received
ANNUAL REPORT
1999

BUDGET REQUEST
2001

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Richard S. Myers, Dean
April 6, 2000
MISSION

The mission of the College of Arts and Sciences is to provide learning opportunities in which students may increase knowledge; to develop creativity, communication skills, critical thinking, and problem solving abilities; and to deepen their understanding of themselves, their society, and the environment. Through programs in the humanities, fine arts, mathematics, social sciences, and natural sciences, students are prepared to demonstrate competence in their chosen fields of study. Additionally, the College provides a strong liberal arts foundation for all degree programs through the general education core, defining for society what it means to be an educated person.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

Credit Hour Production

Enrollment in the College of Arts and Sciences, as measured by the semester credit hour production, declined by one percent in Fall 1999. The College produced 52.8 percent of the University's undergraduate credit hours and 23.2 percent of the graduate credit hours.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>24,441</td>
<td>23,941</td>
<td>23,372</td>
<td>22,841</td>
<td>22,378</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>688</td>
<td>586</td>
<td>733</td>
<td>584</td>
<td>797</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>25,129</td>
<td>24,527</td>
<td>24,105</td>
<td>23,425</td>
<td>23,175</td>
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<td>Percent of University</td>
<td>55.2 %</td>
<td>54.6 %</td>
<td>52.8 %</td>
<td>51.1 %</td>
<td>50.6 %</td>
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In spite of the three percent decline in total credit hours, the following departments experienced increases in credit hour production: Aerospace Studies (25 %), Art (+ 3 %), Biological Sciences (+ 6 %), and History + 13 %). The largest decreases were in Audiology and Speech Pathology (137 cr.hr.), Languages and Literature (127 cr.hr.), Music (185 cr.hr.), and Physical Sciences (152 cr.hr.).

Status of New Programs

Within the Division of Social Sciences the "Bachelor of Science in General Studies" degree was replaced with the "Bachelor of Science" degree. It offers a major in social sciences with concentrations in geography, political science, sociology, and general social sciences. There are no programs in the College of Arts and Sciences which offer the BSGS degree.
The Master of Social Work has been approved by the IHL Board of Trustees and is awaiting funding. Two relatively new graduate programs, the Master of Science degree with a major in Criminal Justice and the Master of Science degree with a major in Community Development, continue to grow.

Department of Aerospace Studies (incomplete)

The number of cadets enrolled in the program in 1999 was ; the average of the four previous years is 28. The number of cadets to be commissioned in 1999 was . Credit hour production increased 25 percent over fall 1998. DSU students are successfully competing for national honors, awards, and programs.

Department of Art

The Department received an accreditation visit by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD). The report was generally very positive and complimentary. The few weaknesses which were described are being remedied. The number of degrees awarded in 1999 was 27, compared to an average of 23 in the prior three years. Credit hour production increased 3.4 percent over fall 1998.

Department of Audiology and Speech Pathology

The number of degrees awarded in the department has averaged 20 per year for the past several years. There were 20 students earning degrees in 1999. There are currently 53 majors. The department offers diagnostic and remedial services for students, faculty, staff, and the general public.

Department of Biology

Enrollment in the Department continues to be large at the lower, upper and graduate levels. Almost one-tenth of all students at Delta State major in the Department of Biological Sciences. The eleven faculty members are engaged in a wide variety of scholarly activities, including research, writing on a wide array of topics, and presenting papers at scientific meetings. The critical need in the Department is more space. Some of the space problems will be resolved with the renovation of Caylor Hall, scheduled to be the next major University renovation project. The credit hour production increased 5.8 percent over fall 1998. Fifty graduates received baccalaureate degrees in 1999.

Department of History

In recent years the number of majors has averaged 35 - 40 per year. In 1999 there were 42 undergraduate and graduate majors. Many other students wishing to become "history teachers" work toward the B.S.E. degree with a major in Division of Social Sciences. The
number of graduates increased from 8 in 1997 to 12 in 1998 to 15 in 1999. Credit hour production increased from 1,833 in Fall 1998 to 2,064 in Fall 1999 (13%). The faculty in the department has been active in the profession, serving in professional associations, writing, and presenting programs to civic and historical organizations.

Division of Languages and Literature

Enrollment of students in courses declined from 5,674 credit hours in Fall 1998 to 5,547 credit hours in 1999 due in part to the technical writing course’s no longer being required for the Bachelor of Business Administration degree. The Division produced 12 percent of the University total credit hours in Fall 1999. Majors in the division continue to produce works which are well received by publishers and the public. Faculty and staff provide service to the University through the Writing Center, the Diane Stewart Language Laboratory, and the Writing Proficiency Examination. The faculty is very active, with 14 attending professional conferences, 12 making presentations at professional meetings, six publishing in external books and journals, and six traveling internationally. Majors had poems published in the national journal of Lambda Iota Tau and were selected to present papers at national conferences.

Department of Mathematics

Undergraduate enrollment decreased slightly from 2,308 in Fall 1998 to 2,238 in 1999, due primarily to changes in admission requirements and the nature of MAT 090 and MAT 099. There were nine graduates in 1999; the Department currently has 41 majors. The faculty is active professionally, particularly in the area of mathematics education. The faculty is concerned about the very low enrollment in the graduate program and the inability to recruit students who can perform satisfactorily at the graduate level.

Department of Music

In Fall 1999 there were 97 music majors, compared to 105 in 1998 and 75 in 1996. There were 22 graduates in 1999. The Department is very active in recruiting students of all majors who perform in the various music organizations. The 16 full-time faculty members teach courses for music majors, music appreciation courses for non-majors, and direct ensembles and performing groups that include majors and non-majors.

Department of Physical Sciences

The number of B.S. degrees awarded in 1999 was 11, compared to the average of 16 for the four previous years. Fall semester credit hour production decreased from 2,171 in 1998 to 2,019 in 1999. There are currently 67 chemistry majors. The faculty is extremely active in involving undergraduate students in research, presenting papers at scientific meetings, writing grant proposals, and administering grants.
Division of Social Sciences

The Division of Social Sciences administers four undergraduate degrees and three graduate degrees. Over the past several years the number of students earning undergraduate degrees has increased, as has the number of graduate students enrolled in the Division. The number of degrees awarded increased from 50 in 1991 to 81 in 1997 to 114 in 1999.

Department of Social Work

The number of majors has increased from 51 in 1991 to 96 in fall 1999. There were 25 BSW graduates in 1999; there are 37 seniors in who will graduate in May 2000. On the Social Work Licensure Examination, 76 percent of DSU students pass, while the state average is 42 percent. The faculty is very active in University, community, and professional affairs.

Other

Great Books Program. The University Great Books program began with the first courses being offered in Fall 1998. There are currently four great books courses, with one being taught each semester.

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

The Office of the Dean provides leadership and support for activities in the College of Arts and Sciences. One of its purposes is to assist the departments, divisions, and faculty in achieving their goals. To facilitate this task and improve communication among departments, the chairs are organized into the "Council of the College of Arts and Sciences," with regular meetings.

Each spring semester the faculty of Arts and Sciences evaluates the Dean through a survey coordinated by the Office of Institutional Research and Planning. The survey asks for suggestions for improving the operation and service of the office. These suggestions are considered and implemented where appropriate.

Dr. David Schubert, Professor of Music, has provided valuable assistance to the Dean's Office. His activities have included the development of a better advising system, particularly for undeclared students; development of an Arts & Sciences web site; the pursuit of external funding through grants; and the production of a School brochure. He is paid the equivalent of a one course overload each semester and summer term.
Vision and Goals

1. The College of Arts and Sciences will meet accreditation requirements for the American Academy for Liberal Education or the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges. Meeting this goal will highlight the academic quality and liberal arts foundation of the curricula at Delta State University.

2. The general education core will be evaluated and revised where appropriate. A study committee will recommend changes to ensure a broad, liberal foundation for all undergraduate curricula.

3. Methods of assessing all aspects of the curriculum, including general education, will be improved and enhanced. Documentation will ensure that the results of assessment improve the quality of programs and services.

4. "Learning communities" will be made available for entering freshmen. Expanding on our experience, faculty teams will offer groups of courses for freshman cohorts. Studies have shown that learning communities enhance learning as well as improve retention.

5. The number of degree programs incorporating service learning, practica, and internships will increase.

6. Off-campus course offerings will increase in number, especially in Greenville and Clarksdale.

7. Technology will be used to improve learning. More faculty will become proficient in integrating technology into teaching at the appropriate level.

8. Faculty will become more involved in using their expertise in improving the quality of life in the Delta region.

9. The College will become more active in seeking external funding for teaching, scholarship, and service projects from both public sources and private foundations.

10. Graduate programs will be strengthened.

11. Departments and divisions will be assisted in implementing strategic planning goals which are priorities for 2000-2001 and those which involve little or no cost.
**Recruiting Plan**

The following plan of recruiting continues to be used in the Office of the Dean:

1. Encourage, facilitate, and coordinate departmental recruiting activities.
2. Write and/or telephone applicants with above average ACT scores (24 and above).
3. Print brochures to send to potential students.
4. Update the handbook for advisors.
5. Improve the web site for the College and the departments and divisions.

**Budget Request and Explanation**

Additional funds are requested for travel and for commodities in order to support College activities in the later part of the fiscal year when some departments have significant unmet needs.
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