

**NTID**  
**Laboratory Science Technology Program Outcomes Assessment**  
**Plan and Report for AY 2007-2008**

*Program Goal: To provide graduates with laboratory analytical testing knowledge and skills, for entry level positions, with scientific organizations.*

Critical Outcomes for all Students		Assessment of Outcomes		Timeline		Results	
Domain/Task/ Capability	Performance Criteria/ Benchmarks	Instrument/ Opportunity	Assessment of Performance	Develop	Collect	Summarization of Results	Use of Results
1. General Skills and Professional Competence (Technical) [Eighty percent (80 %)] of all students will understand, use, and document appropriate laboratory skills related to safety, quality control, technical communication, and professional readiness.	<p>a. Students will understand and apply safety regulations and protocols and correctly utilize safety equipment.</p> <p>b. Students will appropriately follow quality control procedures.</p> <p>c. Students will demonstrate effective technical communication of results.</p> <p>d. Students will develop a resume that is accurate, complete, and professional.</p>	Portfolio review. To occur at the end of Laboratory Applications VI course (0879-206).	a.-d. Score of at least "2" ("acceptable/meets entry level professional standards") on all related items on the Laboratory Science Technology portfolio rating sheet.	AY 2004-2005	Annually in the Laboratory Applications VI (0879-206) course.	9 students in the Laboratory Applications VI course were evaluated in academic year 2007-2008.  100% of students performed at or above the benchmark for all General Skills and Professional Competence sections.	Although students were assessed in a positive manner related to their skills in this category program will continue to emphasize general laboratory skills and professional competence in an effort to ensure our graduates are technically prepared. As a result of prior year's Outcomes Assessment efforts, we made a push to increase the emphasis of the crucial topic of laboratory safety. This year's results for that item yielded an average score of 2.6 (on a 0-3 scale). This is up slightly from last year's average score of 2.3, and up from 2.1 two years ago. We believe that this trend is the result of a renewed effort the program's emphasis on these curricular items. The evaluated cohort of students represents the first group to have gone through the completely revised safety curriculum. Last year's outcome assessment report predicted this increase in rating due to the cohort coming in from the "ground floor" of the modified curriculum. However, the topic of laboratory safety is so important that we would still like to see further improvement. Likewise, we would like to see improvement in the "Laboratory Information Management" category (average score of 2.3 year). This is also a topic of great importance (specifically, maintaining a laboratory notebook for general skills and professional competence).
2. Instrumentation (Technical) [Eighty percent (80 %)] of all students will produce laboratory reports that demonstrate an understanding of the use of analytical instrumentation including: electroanalytical, spectroscopy, and chromatography instruments.	<p>a. Students will demonstrate an understanding of how to set-up, run, and maintain selected electroanalytical probes/meters.</p> <p>b. Students will demonstrate an understanding of how to set-up, run, and maintain selected molecular</p>	Portfolio review. To occur at the end of Laboratory Applications VI course (0879-206).	a.-e. Score of at least "2" ("acceptable/meets entry level professional standards") on all related items on the Laboratory Science Technology portfolio rating sheet.	AY 2004-2005	Annually in the Laboratory Applications VI (0879-206) course.	9 students in the Laboratory Applications VI course were evaluated in academic year 2007-2008.  100% of students performed at or above the benchmark for all Instrumentation sections.	Although students were assessed in a positive manner related to their skills in this category program will continue to emphasize instrumentation knowledge and skills in an effort to ensure that our graduates are technically competent. We are thrilled that students appear to be

	<p>spectrophotometers.</p> <p>c. Students will demonstrate an understanding of how to set-up, run, and maintain selected atomic spectrophotometers.</p> <p>d. Students will demonstrate an understanding of how to set-up, run, and maintain High Performance Liquid Chromatographers.</p> <p>e. Students will demonstrate an understanding of how to set-up, run, and maintain Gas Chromatographers/Gas Chromatographer – Mass Spectrometers.</p>						<p>performing so well in field of instrumental analysis; as the setting up, running, and maintaining of analytical instrumentation is on the primary expectation of the workplace.</p>
<p>3. Volumetric and Gravimetric Analysis (Technical)  <b>[Eighty percent (80 %)]</b>  of all students will produce laboratory reports that demonstrate an understanding of the processes involved in volumetric and gravimetric analyses including: sample preparation, titrations, and gravimetric techniques.</p>	<p>a. Students can perform sample preparation procedures and the corresponding calculations.</p> <p>b. Students can perform gravimetric procedures and the corresponding calculations.</p> <p>c. Students can perform acid/base titrations and the corresponding calculations.</p>	<p>Portfolio review. To occur at the end of Laboratory Applications VI course (0879-206).</p>	<p>a.-c. Score of at least “2” (“acceptable/meets entry level professional standards”) on all related items on the Laboratory Science Technology portfolio rating sheet.</p>	<p>AY 2004-2005</p>	<p>Annually in the Laboratory Applications VI (0879-206) course.</p>	<p>9 students in the Laboratory Applications VI course were evaluated in academic year 2007-2008.</p> <p>100% of students performed at or above the benchmark for all Volumetric and Gravimetric Analysis sections.</p>	<p>Although students were assessed in a positive manner related to their skills in this category, the program will continue to emphasize volumetric and gravimetric knowledge and skills. An effort to ensure that our graduates are technically competent was mentioned in last year’s Outcomes Assessment report, with the “sample preparation” skill. Though last year received a good score (average rating of 2.2, on a 0-3 scale), we believed that the students’ skills in sample preparation are even better than the statistics show. Therefore, we modified the way that we have students document their evidence for understanding this technique. We believe that this was helpful in improving the average rating for this skill to 2.5 for this year’s assessment. Students using this skill often do so appropriately in most of their experiments, and are now reporting this skill adequately.</p>
<p>4. Biological and Microbiological Techniques (Technical)  <b>[Eighty percent (80 %)]</b>  of all students will produce laboratory reports that demonstrate an understanding of biological and microbiological techniques including: tasks involving sterile technique and the identification/classification/evaluation of microorganisms.</p>	<p>a. Students can identify/classify/evaluate microorganisms.</p> <p>b. Students can prepare media using sterile technique.</p>	<p>Portfolio review. To occur at the end of Laboratory Applications VI course (0879-206).</p>	<p>a.-b. Score of at least “2” (“acceptable/meets entry level professional standards”) on all related items on the Laboratory Science Technology portfolio rating sheet.</p>	<p>AY 2004-2005</p>	<p>Annually in the Laboratory Applications VI (0879-206) course.</p>	<p>9 students in the Laboratory Applications VI course were evaluated in academic year 2007-2008.</p> <p>100% of students performed at or above the benchmark for “preparing media and using sterile technique”, while 78% performed at or above the benchmark for “identifying/classifying/evaluating microorganisms” in the Biological/Microbiological Techniques sections.</p>	<p>Although students were assessed reasonably well related to their skills in this category, the program will continue to emphasize biological and microbiological knowledge and skills. An effort to ensure that our graduates are technically competent was mentioned in last year’s Outcomes Assessment report. For the third consecutive year, this category yielded some of the lowest relative average scores (though not below the benchmark).</p>

							overall). To this end, have begun curricula action to substitute o of the Microbiology courses in the progra mask with a Molecul Biology course. This program change wou not only help the program to remain current with the field should also help to address some of the identified student weaknesses that have surfaced as a result o our Outcomes Assessment initiative. As well, the remainin Microbiology course the Biotechnology course are going thro curricular review. We believe that modifications to these course will improve ratings in this category and ultimately produ graduates with strong biology knowledge.
Co-op Work experience	Having completed a job search process, a student will complete at 10-week co-op work experience.	Assessment will occur prior to graduation by a Co-op supervisor.	80% of the students will successfully complete a 10-week program-related work experience and receive a score of 3 or above (5 point scale) on overall Co-op performance.	AY 2004-2005	TBD	The mean rating of LST student by co-op supervisors who completed the evaluation online was 4.8 (N=5) during the four quarters 20064-20073.	We are pleased that co-op supervisors rate our students so high in overall satisfaction with our students. We believe that this is one of the best metrics for evaluating the efficacy of a program's curriculum and have always felt that our students are very well trained in practical applications of Laboratory Science and prepared to contribute to the host lab with minimal training while on co-op. Inasmuch as we value these evaluations, we hope to improve the percentage of supervisors who complete the online evaluations.
Job Placement	Students will gain entry-level employment in the LST field	NCE Data	90% of graduates will be employed in the field.	Ongoing	Annually	For AY 2005-2006 n=8; 100% of students seeking employment were working	In every case where an individual is not looking for a job, the graduates of the LST program are continuing in baccalaureate programs as a result of a newly established transfer degree from the LST program. In the future we hope to monitor the success of these students in their transfer programs. Of the remaining students, we are thrilled that 100% are finding permanent jobs. We aim to keep up on the placement of students and the student enrollment in the program continue to expand.
80 % of graduating students will indicate overall satisfaction with the program and the	Graduating students will indicate overall satisfaction with program and courses.	Student Satisfaction Survey	Students will indicate they <i>Strongly Agree</i> or <i>More Agree than</i>	AY 2004-2005	Annually	8 students in the Laboratory Applications VI course completed surveys in academic year 2007-2008 related to student	Although students indicated overall satisfaction with their courses, we examined

courses.			<p><i>Disagree</i> (4-point scale) when asked to give an overall rating on two global items, one related to the program in general and the other related to the courses in the major.</p>		<p>satisfaction.</p> <p>100% indicated overall satisfaction with the program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•100% responded "Agree Strongly" with question "I would recommend the Laboratory Science Technology Program to other students."</li> </ul> <p>100% indicated overall satisfaction with the courses in their major.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•100% responded "Agree Strongly" to the question "I was satisfied with what I learned in the Laboratory Science Technology program."</li> </ul>	<p>the results from the assessment of individual courses and found the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Of the 8 categories of courses, 5 received overall ratings of better than average in the extent to which the courses improved the skills. The Instrumentation series courses, Principles of Chemistry series of courses, Chemical/Biotechnology Fundamentals of Biology, and Fundamentals of Chemistry series of courses were all received overall ratings above average. These series courses also received high scores last year, it appears that we are doing well to satisfy student in these courses. The Lab Math series courses received an overall rating of average which we are pleased to say is an improvement from last year. The Laboratory Application series of courses received overall ratings of average, as they did last year.</li> <li>•Microbiology series courses were somewhat disappointing, received overall ratings below average. Of most concern, 50% of the students rated their Microbiology course "some but not much" improving their skills. These courses are going through curricular and faculty changes.</li> </ul>
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