**Executive Summary of Program Assessment**

**Campus:** MU

**College/School: College of Arts & Science**

**Academic Unit: Geological Sciences**

**Date Submitted: February 28, 2014**

**Person Responsible for Success of Program: Kevin Shelton, Chair**

**Person Submitted Executive Summary:**

Patricia Okker, Interim Deputy Provost

**Degree Programs**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Degree (e.g., BS, MA, PhD)** | **Degree Program** | **Enrollment** | **Number of Degrees Awarded** |
| **Most Recent Fall Semester****2012** | **5-Year Fall Semester Average** | **Most Recent Academic Year****2012** | **5-Year Average** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| BA/BS | Geological sciences | 52 | 39.2 | 7 | 7.6 |
| MS | Geological sciences | 19 | 21 | 9 | 6  |
| PhD | Geological Sciences | 16 | 13.4 | 3 | 1.8 |

**Changes Since Last Review (2010)**

* Shift in graduate program, increasing focus on PhD students. (In 2010 the graduate student population was 30% PhD and 70% MS; current figures are 55% PhD and 45% MS.)
* BA in Environmental Geology eliminated. BA in Geological Sciences added.
* Non-thesis option established for MS students.

**Strategies or Plans for Improving Program**

* Working towards an interdisciplinary doctoral program in Geosciences, with potential partners including Geography and Soil, Environmental and Atmospheric Sciences.
* Increasing efforts to recruit high quality graduate students, with goal of having 10 or more graduate degrees (MS and PhD) awarded per year, beginning in 2014-2015.
* Strengthen research productivity in terms of citations and dollars per grant.
* Continue to strengthen department by focusing on (1) structural geology and tectonics and (2) sedimentary geology and geochemistry.