

**Annual Key Assessment Findings and Curricular Improvements
Department of Biology**

**Master's Program in Biology
Doctoral Program in Biology**

Key Assessment Findings

In AY2010-11, the number of students taking the master's and doctoral comprehensive examination were too small to report. We will continue to collect the data on the graduate comprehensive examination and will report the numbers in aggregate form for the 5-year assessment findings report. In addition, we collected data using our rubrics for the graduate comprehensive examinations for students taking the exam in Fall 2010 and Spring 2011, and expect to include this data as well in aggregate form for the 5-year assessment findings report.

Curricular Improvements

In AY2010-11, we have been begun implementing the curriculum for our new Master's Program in Biotechnology. We welcomed another new faculty member, a tenure-track assistant professor, who is teaching and participating in the program. Three new courses were offered this year in the Biotechnology program: Biol 579 Principles and Practice of Biotechnology, Biol 580 Entrepreneurial Biotechnology, and Biol 589 Introduction to Nanobiotechnology.

