PLNU Program Review

External Reviewer Report Template

Rev 12-4-15

Instructions:

Thank you for agreeing to be an external reviewer for the PLNU Program Review process. We are grateful for your engagement with us and look forward to your feedback and insights. We are including the department’s/school’s entire self-study document in order to give you context. While we appreciate your feedback on the entire self-study, we especially look forward to your feedback on the specific program that you have agreed to review. The Dean and Chair of the academic unit will be your main points of contact and will arrange opportunity for you to interact with them and/or other departmental personnel as appropriate. This will allow you a chance to ask questions or seek clarification prior to the completion of your report. We have created the following external reviewer template for your report in an attempt to give you some guidance in terms of what type of feedback we are hoping to get. The text boxes are there for your convenience, but if they get in the way or create formatting issues, feel free to delete them and put your text in their place. This is a new process for us so we have created a space at the end to provide any feedback on the process that can help us create a better instrument in the future.

Thank you again for your help with our program review at PLNU,

Kerry Fulcher, Provost

Point Loma Nazarene University
Department Level Analysis

A) Introduction

B) Alignment with Mission

Please review and evaluate the academic unit's response to the questions regarding mission alignment of their unit with the university mission from both an academic and Christian faith perspective. Are there any suggestions for how they might better articulate and demonstrate their alignment to the university mission and purpose?

C) Quality, Qualifications and Productivity of Department Faculty

Based on all the evidence and responses provided in the program review report, provide a summary analysis of the qualifications of faculty associated with the program. Identify the degree to which scholarly production aligns with the expectations of the degree level of the program offered (undergraduate, master's) at this type of institution. Are there any strengths or distinctives that should be noted? Are there any gaps or weaknesses that should be noted?

Review and comment on the scholarship of the faculty. Identify the degree to which scholarly production aligns with the expectations of the degree level of the program offered (undergraduate, master's) at this type of institution. Where appropriate, suggest improvements that may be necessary to increase the quality and/or quantity of scholarship produced by the faculty in this program.

D) Progress on Recommendations from Previous Program Review

Review the narrative supplied for this section. Discuss whether it provided a good accounting and rationale for what changes have or have not been made based on the previous program review and/or any circumstances that have arisen since? Where appropriate, identify any insights or questions that you might have stemming from this narrative.

E) General Education and Service Classes
Identify any program response to GE or service classes that may be associated with this program. Review and discuss the quality of the program’s responses to the questions in this section of the self-study. Identify any insights or suggestions that program might consider based on your knowledge of courses like these at other institutions.

F) Program Level Analysis

1. Trend and Financial Analysis

Based on data and responses provided by the program, summarize and evaluate the effectiveness of the program’s recruitment and matriculation efforts as it relates to enrollment. Are there any suggestions or insights that you might have that can help to increase the demand for the program and/or improve the enrollment yield?

Based on data and responses provided by the program, summarize and evaluate the program’s role in GE and Service functions and identify any opportunities or challenges from this that could have positive or negative impacts on the program itself.

Based on data and responses provided by the program, summarize and evaluate the efficiency of the program based on its overall and course enrollment trends along with the external benchmarking use of the cost per student credit hour data (Delaware). Are there any suggestions or insights that you might have that can help to increase the efficiency of the program without having a negative impact on quality?

2. Findings from Assessment

After reviewing the program’s responses to their assessment findings, do you think the program is effectively using their assessment activities and data? Are there suggestions that you might make to improve their assessment plan or insights from their data that you might offer in addition to their analysis? Discuss the quality of their analysis and identify elements of their analysis that you think could be strengthened.
3. Curriculum Analysis

After reviewing the program’s curricular analysis, student learning outcomes (SLOs), and curricular map, characterize the quality and appropriateness of the program’s curriculum for meeting the learning outcomes expected of students within this discipline. Identify any possible changes to the curriculum or to the SLOs that would result in an improved program.

After reviewing the program’s curricular analysis through a guild or comparator lens, summarize and discuss the quality of their analysis and comparison and offer any suggestions or insights that might be helpful for the program to consider regarding their curriculum content and structure.

After reviewing the program’s curricular analysis through an employability lens, summarize and discuss the quality of their analysis and narrative and offer any suggestions or insights that might be helpful for the program to consider regarding their curriculum content and structure as a preparation for future employment.

After reviewing the program’s curricular analysis through a pedagogy lens, summarize and discuss the quality of their analysis and narrative and offer any suggestions or insights that might be helpful for the program to consider regarding the delivery of their curriculum in ways to enhance the student learning experience.

4. Potential Impact of National Trends

After reviewing the program’s discussion of possible impacts from national trends, discuss the quality of their response and identify if there are trends in the discipline that the self-study has missed or not adequately addressed based on your expertise and opinion.
5. Quality Markers

After reviewing the program’s discussion of its quality markers and the questions posed in this section of the self-study, discuss the quality of their response to these questions and identify any particular strengths and/or weaknesses that you might see in this section of the self-study. Please offer any suggestions or insights that might be helpful for the program to consider relating to these quality markers.

6. Infrastructure and Staffing

After reviewing the program’s discussion of its infrastructure and staffing, discuss the quality of their analysis and reflection in this important area and offer any suggestions or insights that you might suggest they consider.

7. Challenges and Opportunities

Do you feel the report adequately identified the challenges and opportunities that they face based on your understanding of the discipline? Why or why not. Are there other challenges or opportunities that you see based on your review of the self-study and your understanding of the discipline in today’s higher education context?

8. Recommendations for Program Improvement

Do you feel the recommendations being made for this program are supported by the analysis and evidence provided in the self-study document and narrative? Discuss why or why not. Are there other recommendations or suggestions that you would make that the academic unit should consider? If so, please give a brief rationale for why?
G) External Reviewer Feedback on PLNU Program Review Process:
We recognize that there are many ways to approach a program review. We would value your feedback on our process so that we can continue to make it better and more helpful to the programs undergoing review. Are there areas that were confusing or sections that you felt were unhelpful? Are there areas that you were not asked about where you feel you could have provided useful information? Is there anything about the process that you would recommend we change or consider changing that could make it better?