



# Comprehensive Program Review

University System of Georgia

## CPR Report Submitted!

Thank you for submitting a **Comprehensive Program Review Report**. Below is the information you sent on June 30, 2003. *Please note* this is a temporary web page and cannot be bookmarked. You may wish to print this page for your records. You will also receive confirmation via email.

- 1                   **Name:** Edwin A. Rugg
- 2                   **Title:** Director, Center for Institutional Effectiveness
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- 5                   **Institution:** Kennesaw State University
- 6    **Review Status:** Non-triggered Review
- 7    **Degree level:** Bachelors
- 8    **Degree acronym:** BS
- 9    **Degree/Major:** BS with a major in Biology
- 10                  **CIP Code:** 26010100
- 11                  **College,** College of Science & Mathematics  
**School/Division:**
- 12                  **Department:** Department of Biological & Physical Sciences
- 13                  **CPR Plan** Yes  
**followed:**
- 14 **Future institutional** Expand and enhance  
**plans for program:**
- 15 **Plan for resources** add  
**in this program:**
- 16 **Supplemental file:** CPR FINDINGS to BOR - B.S. Biology.doc
- 17                  **File Type:** MS Word
- 18 **CPR Web Addr.:** www.kennesaw.edu/ie

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**CPR FINDINGS AND PLANS  
FOR THE  
B.S. WITH A MAJOR IN BIOLOGY  
AT KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY**

**MAJOR FINDINGS ON THE PROGRAM'S QUALITY, PRODUCTIVITY, & VIABILITY**

The program's self-study and the University Program Review Council were in substantial agreement in their evaluations of the quality, productivity and viability of this highly popular undergraduate program. The program was judged to be strong in overall quality, strong in overall productivity and clearly viable. Two-thirds (10 of 15) of the quality indicators were rated as strong or very strong, including the faculty, lab facilities, use of advanced instructional technology, advising, preparation of graduates, grants and gifts, student & faculty honors, stakeholder satisfaction, student selectivity and responsiveness to change. Opportunities for improvement were noted in the adequacy of the budget for science equipment and supplies, program recognition, student diversity, and follow-up on graduates. A smaller proportion of the productivity indicators were rated as strong or very strong (6 of 12), including clarity of curricular design, course scheduling, enrollment levels in required courses, responsiveness to demand for graduates, program ranking of degree productivity in the USG, and contribution to the KSU mission. Opportunities for improvement were noted by the Council in increasing degree completions, raising the rate of graduation, and improving the program's productivity ranking from third to second in the USG. Although this program is in the top ten of KSU's most productive in annual degree completions averaging 61 per year for FY00, FY01 and FY02, the Council remarked that degree completions should be higher since the number of declared majors was so large and growing (from 385 in Fall 1999 to 589 in Fall 2002). The establishment of an endowed distinguished chair in biotechnology and the development of a stand-alone major for that specialty area were also seen as strengths and opportunities for advancement.

**PLANS FOR IMPROVING THE PROGRAM'S QUALITY, PRODUCTIVITY, & VIABILITY**

Some of the more notable plans for improvement include: completing the strategic hire of a faculty member to assume the Neel Distinguished Chair of Biotechnology; developing a program proposal for a stand-alone biotechnology major; seeking extramural funding to supplement state support for acquisition and upgrades of scientific equipment; expanding undergraduate research opportunities; expanding internship opportunities for students; monitoring graduates more closely; developing outreach programs for middle school and high school science teachers and students; increasing faculty involvement in freshman learning communities; and facilitating the creation of learning communities for science majors in KSU's new residential facilities.

## **NEW RESOURCE ALLOCATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT**

Kennesaw State's funding and expenditures per FTE student have been substantially below average throughout the university's relatively brief history. New funding and facilities have lagged KSU's exceptional rate of growth over the years. Consequently, the student/faculty ratio at KSU is exceptionally high, and the institution would need another 150 full-time faculty to reach the average of the other state and regional universities in the USG. In that context, there is substantial justification for enhancing most degree programs with additional investments in full-time faculty support. However, this review and its recommendations were completed in the context of a statewide and national economic downturn, significant budget cutbacks in the State's, the University System's, and KSU's operating budgets, and little prospect of KSU receiving special catch-up funding from state appropriations in the near term.

Growing enrollments of biology majors and promising new curricular pursuits in biotechnology led the Council to recommend funding enhancements for increased faculty support, operating expenses and lab equipment. Clarification of specific faculty goals was requested. Funding for such enhancements was expected to come from institutionally redirected and self-generated sources. Grant applications for equipment enhancements were also encouraged.

## **PLANS FOR INCREASING PROGRAM PRODUCTIVITY ABOVE THRESHOLD**

Not applicable. This program was not triggered for special review by the System Office.