Changes in Response to Findings

In response to its 2014 Academic Program Review, the Department of Systems and Industrial Engineering (SIE) collected the data during the academic year 2014-2015, and the results were analyzed in August 2015.

During the department faculty retreat on August 22, 2015, the findings from assessments were discussed, and the overall assessment findings on both the PhD program and MS programs were positive. However, a few changes were suggested by the SIE faculty in 1) collecting the data, 2) performing the assessments, and 3) implementing the improvements:

i) Faculty members, staff member (the graduate program advisor), and graduate students will continue to work together so that the assessment process will become a concrete and standard one in collecting data for each PhD/MS student when she/he enters, stays, and exits the programs.

ii) It was suggested for faculty members to be more strict and consistent in evaluating students' performance, especially during the final defense (MS or PhD).

iii) The SIE graduate committee members will evaluate the statement of each student in his/her application package. This will allow us to compare performance of students in “effectively communicate ideas and results” when they enter the program, and when they leave the program (“Outcome 4” for the PhD program and “Outcome 3” for the MS programs).

iv) The graduate studies committee of the SIE department will consider adding another direct assessment activity to measure each of the outcomes in the MS program.

v) The graduate program advisor will assume the responsibility for organizing the collected data into an excel file. The SIE graduate studies committee (chair or member) will assume the responsibility for developing statics, which will support assessment findings. The graduate studies committee is also responsible for implementing identified improvement items.

vi) The graduate studies committee will assume the responsibility for overseeing all assessment activities at the graduate level, sharing analysis results, and leading programmatic changes based on the analysis.