University of Montana: Prioritization Overview

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UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

Update on the APASP Process

- The APASP Task Force has reviewed more than 400 academic program and administrative services reports and placed each unit in one of four prioritization categories:
  - Priority for development and growth
  - Consider for development and/or modification
  - Priority for substantial modification and
  - Insufficient evidence.

Next Steps

- Deans/Sector heads will respond to the initial prioritization recommendations.
- The APASP Task Force will consider Dean responses when they formulate their recommendations to the President and Cabinet.
- Authors will have the opportunity to respond as well. Their responses will go directly to the President and Cabinet.
- APASP implementation plans (due in January) will be developed for each recommendation.
- The timeline for the APASP process is available online at www.umt.edu/apasp.

Lessons Learned

- Strong engagement from students, staff, faculty, and administrators has enhanced the process.
- Conducting a pilot process for program review/ scoring is beneficial.
- Training for report authors provides greater consistency and better quality reports.
- Training for additional reviewers is important to ensure inter-reviewer reliability.

Lessons Learned (cont.)

- Electronic scoring software facilitates workflow for the numerous steps in the prioritization process.
- Evaluation of programs requires a balance of qualitative reports and quantitative metrics.
- Transparency to the campus is enhanced through regular email communications and website updates.