II. Construction Management Quality Plan

a. Mission
To prepare students to “hit the ground running” in the construction industry.

1) Raise $510,000 towards infrastructure improvements and Scholarships
2) Enrollment
   a) Increase enrollment
   b) Increase the quality of the student

c. Program Assessment Tools

1. Advisory Committee and Capstone Class Review

During the Spring Semester the seniors in the capstone class are given an opportunity to “grade” the education they received at BGSU. Truly it is done on an A, B, C, D, and F scale. They grade the curriculum on whether they regard it as being relevant and on how well the faculty do in delivering the course material. These student responses are given to four contractor members of our advisory board who meet with the students to get their comments. The Spring 2011 review is scheduled for April 26. From the team’s annual report, the Construction Management Department is able to identify our strengths and weaknesses as seen from the eyes of a student.

We are able to make certain improvements in our program. One noteworthy deficiency has been lack of expertise in teaching an important estimating software called Timberline. As a result, we were able to hire a local contractor employee who is an expert and who teaches Timberline “in-house” to fellow employees at the company.

2. American Institute of Constructor’s Construction Fundamental Exam

The American Institute of Constructors (AIC) is the professional certification association for the construction industry. To accomplish this there is a certification process requiring an examination that our students take as part of their Senior Capstone class. Because this gives us a “measuring stick” with other universities across the nation, we are able to assess weaknesses in our curriculum.

One such weakness was possibly in communications. With this awareness we have increased our focus in both written and spoken communication. Though we have not added any specific changes in our required classes, we have continued to increase the requirements for our construction students do both written and spoken presentation. This is a skill that they will use in their employment.

3. Department Chair Review of Student Evaluations
In concert with the faculty member, the Department Chair reviews the evaluations that the students do at the end of each class. From this communication the faculty member develops a “Faculty Course Assessment Report” citing opportunities for improvement and areas of excellence. As a result of this feedback an improvement may be something as simple as providing better electronic resources for student assignment. One faculty member realized that his grading too easy.

4. Faculty Assessment Meeting

The faculty meet on a regular basis to evaluate changes in technology and make appropriate changes in the curriculum. A recent change to our course offerings has been to drop “hand stretching” from our curriculum and provide room in the curriculum to teach a series of CAD and Building Information Modeling (BIM – 3D CAD) used in estimating and scheduling. We have to constantly be cautious not to add additional courses to the curriculum. Even with the required three semesters of cooperative education, students are able to graduate in four years.

5. Alumni Survey

Annually we survey the alumni on three broad issues: the appropriateness of the course work that we require, employment, and salaries.

Course work

As with all course work evaluations, adjustments are made in our course offerings. As a result of their feedback we have been able to move away from general technology courses to more appropriate construction related curriculum. A continuing theme is the endorsement of the required three co-op experiences.

Alumni Survey Fall 2010

Employment
- 93.5% are employed in construction
- 3.2% are employed but not in construction
- 1.6% are unemployed
- 1.6% are students

How did you find your employment?
- 54.5% through co-op
- 25.5% through networking
- 3.6% through the newspaper

How much time after graduation did it take to secure your first position?
- 72.1% Secured before graduation
- 11.5% less than one month

Salary
• Results of survey of graduates in the last five years.

*Construction Management - BGSU*

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• In spite of the down economy our graduates are getting jobs and the best graduates will always be employed. Construction is a vocation that cannot be outsourced.

6. Spring Advisory Meeting

The Construction Management Department hosts Industry Advisory Committee meetings twice a year. From this interaction with construction industry we get a real world look at numerous aspects of our program. Probably most importantly, we get a review of the relevancy of what is being taught in the classroom. From these discussions, we have been able to focus on several curriculum issues.

• Professional Presentations
• Relevant Scheduling Software (Primavera P6 versus P3)
• Moving towards Building Information Modeling (BIM)
• Continue to strongly support the co-op experience
• Provide a link with the construction industry to provide field trip opportunities and classroom presentations by construction professionals.

d. Assessment Results.

Currently being modified.