

IUPUI GAC Reviewer Form

Documents Reviewed: IUPUI Chemistry Proposal for a Doctor of Philosophy Program and CVs of Faculty.

Summary of Proposal: This proposal was prepared at the request of the Indiana Commission of Higher Education. The current program is an established Purdue Ph.D. program in chemistry that is completely delivered on the Indianapolis campus. This proposal is requesting site approval by IUPUI. Graduates of the program receive (and will continue to receive) a Purdue University Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry through the Purdue University Graduate School. The plan is to expand the enrollment over time and hire new faculty members with research experience. This will be crucial for continued support of the program.

1. Are the goals clear and achievable?

The goals are clear and achievable. The program has been in existence for 25 years and conferred 45 Ph.D. degrees.

2. Is the program academically sound?

The program is academically sound and follows the Purdue system. Over the 25 years, no deficits or recurring problems have been encountered.

3. Are faculty resources available to offer this certificate without undercutting other key missions of the unit?

Faculty resources are available without undercutting other missions of the department. However, if recruitment increases, the number of faculty members that have financially supported laboratories will also have to increase. There is a plan to recruit additional faculty and there will be new space available in 2013.

4. Is there overlap, either real or potential, with any other unit that could harm the program or be exploited to help the program?

There seems to be synergy between other departments/programs on campus such as biology, physics, medicine, dentistry and engineering but no serious overlaps.

5. My recommendation, comments/concerns regarding this proposal...

A few questions:

1. What are the differences between what is currently being done/required and what is proposed? If there are differences, will these have to be approved by Purdue? For example, if no Purdue faculty is required on the advisory committees, will the Purdue program be notified and approve this change?
2. It is not entirely clear how having IUPUI approval will help and/or improve the program, students, or faculty.
3. Do domestic applicants have to take the GREs? It is assumed that they do but it was not clear in the proposal.

4. One Comment: The program has made great strides to offer unique opportunities for study within the area of chemistry. These opportunities are unique to IUPUI. The program is encouraged to continue these efforts in developing novel centers and hiring faculty who fill gaps within those areas.

Overall, the program is sound and has been successfully training students for quite some time. I approve this proposal.