
UND SMHS Strategic Plan Individual Unit Report for 2021

GOAL 5 for **Choose or type your unit name here**

LEARNING

One UND Strategic Plan Goal 5: Foster a welcoming, safe, and inclusive campus climate, Goal by 2022, diverse segments (identified in IPEDS) fully participate in improvements in graduation rates and credit hours.

UND SMHS Strategic Plan Goal 5: UND SMHS will foster a welcoming, safe, and inclusive environment across all campuses.

1. Describe if/how your unit has addressed this goal.

BIMD 220 + BIMD 221 – These courses are certified as essential studies “diversity of human experience” courses. One of the main pillars of the diversity content in these courses centers on “science for everyone” and highlights the contributions of a diverse set of scientists in the field. This helps provide representation for students. There is also a strong language and interactions commitment in the syllabi for these courses, stating that the environment will be a safe space for all students to learn. In addition, the instructor strives for inclusive language at all times, particularly around sensitive A&P topics, like race, gender, sex, etc.

The Department monitors continuation and completion rates annually and compares those rates with UND’s STEM PhD rates as reported and updated annually by University Analytics and Planning. The Department also monitors Fall term enrollment trends by gender and race/ethnicity.

2. Describe how your efforts are being assessed.

BIMD 220 + BIMD 221 – SELFI

Departmental PhD Continuation and Completion Rates are compared with UND STEM PhD rates. University Analytics and Planning reports these rates with annual updates in its UAP Graduate Continuation and Completion Rates Power BI Report. Enrollment trends are monitored using the University Analytics and Planning Enrollment Trends Power BI dashboard.

3. Describe how your unit analyzed these data and what assessments were determined.

The average BIMD doctoral 4-year continuation rate for the seven cohorts (avg size, 7) entering from 2011 through 2017 was 82.7% compared to 68.3% UND STEM 4-year continuation rate for the same time-frame (avg size 41). Departmental doctoral 6-year completion rate was 68.3% (four cohorts, 2012-2014) compared to the UND STEM 6-year completion rate for the same cohort period of 57.7%. Graduate student male/female enrollment/completion remained approximately 1:1.

4. Describe how your unit will implement any further changes and what barriers may exist.

The composition of BIMD graduate student enrollment is different from that of the UND campus at-large. This poses special problems in assessing how campus climate impacts our students. We will employ surveys and other data on the health and wellness and campus climate from the perspective of our graduate students. We will seek assistance on developing or identifying such a survey instrument appropriate to STEM graduate students – possibly working with the Graduate School to administer it.

PROVIDE A RATING OF YOUR PROGRESS ON THIS GOAL: ● On Track; ● Delayed; ● Behind

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Additional Information on Goal 5 (optional):

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