

**UAF Mechanical Engineering Department
Graduate Program Assessment Report for 2005**

Department Mission Statement

The mission of the Mechanical Engineering Department is to offer the highest quality, contemporary education and to perform research appropriate to the technical needs of the State of Alaska, the nation and the world.¹ The objectives are to conduct research in all areas of mechanical engineering including cold regions mechanical engineering and to achieve the goal of preparing our graduates for careers at the professional level.

Elements of our assessment criteria and plan for our M.S. program is highlighted as follow.

Assessment Criteria	Implementation / Assessment Tools	Status
GPA tracking	Semester by semester review of student performance in graduate coursework as indicated by semester and cumulative graduate GPA	Ongoing since Spring 2003
Comprehensive oral exam	Comprehensive exam reporting by the Graduate Advisory Committee.	Ongoing since Fall 2004 (in total 9 collected and counting)
Graduate committee evaluation	Yearly Progress Report evaluated and signed by the Graduate Advisory Committee.	Ongoing as required by the Graduate School
Student activity surveys	Record in publication and presentation	Under development
Alumni and employer surveys	Build contact information	New ME web has been built toward this goal

Implementation:

1. All graduate students are required to submit Yearly Progress Reports, which are evaluated and signed by the Graduate Advisory Committee.
2. All graduate students are required to pass an oral comprehensive exam that is evaluated by their Graduate Advisory Committee. During 2005, there were five students taking the oral exams. The assessment reports written by their major advisors are attached.
3. Students will be tracked for their research activities in the areas of publication and presentation.
4. Alumni of the UAF Graduate ME Program will be contacted two years after graduation, and requested to complete a follow-up survey. Toward the goal, this year a new version of department web page has been built.
5. Employers of ME graduates will be contacted every five years and requested to complete a survey.

¹ Cited from the 2004-2005 Catalog, p.194.