1. The Department of Atmospheric Sciences’ PhD program’s student learning outcome has been assessed by graduated students since 2001.

2. We intend to continue collecting data of exit interviews and Student Learning Outcome Assessment (SLOA) for the PhD program.

3. Outcomes data and exit interviews were collected in 2012/2013 for the two students who graduated in AY13 and for the one student who graduated in AY14. The SLOA files were updated accordingly. Of the three PhD students two are employed and one is returning to India.

4. A frequently mentioned difficulty is funding. However, with 99% of our program budget (including one TA position for the spring) bound in salaries there is no possibility to fund students out of the departmental budget.

5. Students want to more opportunities to gain teaching experience. Unfortunately, we have only one TA position which means that only one student per year will have a chance to get such experience. We will work with other departments for opportunities but their graduate student funding is tight as well.

6. As in previous years, the completed 2013 and 2014 “PhD SLOA” is stored in the department’s administrative office.

7. A synoptic faculty search was conducted and two offers were made and accepted. Both taught their first class in AY13.

8. Three PhD students won awards. All three won travel awards to attend conferences in the lower 48. One of the three was the IARC Scientist of the month for February. Two won the department’s student publication award.

9. Five PhD students either presented posters or gave an oral presentation at various conferences; i.e., the Alaska Weather Symposium (AWS), American Geophysical Union (AGU), Coupling, Energetics and Dynamics of Atmospheric Regions (CEDAR) and the Community Modeling and Analysis Conference (CMAS).

10. One PhD student attended a tutorial on the Community Earth System Model (CESM) in Boulder, CO.

11. Three PhD students have published papers either as first author or co-authored during this academic year.

12. Budget implications: We need some support for graduate student stipends and thesis completion fellowships.

Attachments: MS SLOA; PhD SLOA
Annual Outcomes Assessment Report for the PhD program

cc: Dean Paul Layer, Executive Officer. Hild Peters