**Program/Degree/Certificate:** ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND SUSTAINABILITY

**Today’s Date:** 2/2/2018

What does the department think it can do to improve teaching and learning?
- Increase hands-on learning through creation of new lab and field courses (ESS 01L and ESS 06F)
- Utilize Dashboards to assess success and retention, and formulate plans to increase both in underrepresented groups
- Implement more collaborative projects into curricula
- Utilize more inclusive and supportive language in syllabi and course presentation.
- Continue formative analysis in addition to summative analysis.
- Continue to increase departmental teaching tools (maps, books, specimens, etc.) to be utilized by students during instruction.
- Continue course offerings analysis at potential transfer schools so transfer students are well prepared upon completion at Sierra College.

What help or resources are needed from the college to improve teaching and learning?
- Secure lab classroom space for ESS lab class (logical space in Sewell is already highly impacted)
- Obtain designated teaching space so that teaching tools such as classroom maps, books, and specimens can be obtained, stored and accessed for instruction. Requested classroom space in ePAR since 2/2016. Currently classes are taught all over campus (V, S, F, I), not conducive to storing/transporting materials.
- Purchase appropriate additions to department teaching supplies.

What are top priorities for improvement?
- Successfully implement the new course offerings (lab & field)
- Utilize more collaborative projects.
- Be more inclusive and equitable

How will department implement those priorities?
- Work with Division to secure lab space and materials.
- Update curriculum with more collaborative activities
- Attend equity trainings

Provide timeline.
- Offer ESS 06F in Fall 2018 and ESS 01L by S2019
- Attend equity retreat in S2018

Previous/ongoing actions or plans implemented (Refer to previous)
- ESS 06F approved F2017
- ESS 01L in curriculum review S2018
- Continue to request ESS designated space in ePAR
- Review of CSU and UC courses and degrees.
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| Goals met, changes made or evidence of improvement. | • New course approved.  
• Student engagement increased in courses with implemented collaborative activities  
• Department has higher than District and Division average success and retention. |