Task Force on Graduate Education: Selective Excellence
Program Ratings and Rationale

Program: Applied Math and Computational Sciences Ph.D. Program
Rating: Good

AMCS is an interdisciplinary graduate program, administered by the Graduate College, in which students apply math skills to scientific problems. A strength of this program is the participation of faculty from 14 different departments in several colleges. The program is closely associated with the Mathematics Department in CLAS; students complete their core courses and obtain TA support through the Mathematics Department. For these reasons, a combined strategic assessment was submitted for the Mathematics and AMCS graduate programs, but this made it difficult to differentiate some aspects of the two programs. The median TTD of 6.9 yrs is long and requires attention, although the program felt that it was because students completed internships before they graduated. The % completion is 56%, which although slightly above the overall UI average (55%), could be improved. Graduates find employment in academic faculty positions as well as in industry. The diversity efforts for which the Mathematics Department has gained national recognition were not as evident for the AMCS program in the combined strategic assessment. The Task Force feels that it might be appropriate for AMCS to be relocated in CLAS since it is so closely aligned with the Mathematics Department.