Program: Chemical and Biochemical Engineering M.S., Ph.D. Program
Rating: High Quality

Excellent diversity efforts are in place and have been very successful. Since 2004, graduate student cohort averages are: 40% female, 14% African American, and 5% Hispanic. All graduate students are financially supported at competitive levels with peer institutions for 5 yrs at the PhD level, 2 yrs at the MS. Students have been successful in competing for national and international fellowships. The program would like to reduce the median TTD to 5 yrs from current 5.3 yrs and the Task Force agrees that this would be beneficial for the program. The PhD completion rate was 50% which should be improved, but the Task Force did note that only 6% left with no degree and that a significant percentage (31%) of students left with a MS degree due to the favorable job market. Graduates have traditionally been placed in industry but recently more students have gone into academics. CBE has identified goals for the program and these include 1) increasing graduate student quality and 2) increasing research funding levels, perhaps in the area of sustainability, and these initiatives are favorable. There is also significant partnering of the department with interdisciplinary centers on campus that is also viewed as a strength of the program.