Task Force on Graduate Education: Selective Excellence

Program Ratings and Rationale

Program: CRSD: Student Affairs Administration and Research Ph.D. Program
        Student Development in Postsecondary Education M.A.
Rating:   High Quality

The PhD program is a very strong program. The program has good TTD (5.4 yrs) and completion rates and graduates obtain good placements mostly in administrative and advising positions in higher education. The program questioned whether its placement in a department (CRSD) that focuses on preparing counselors and counselor educators is the most efficacious academic home for preparing student affairs professionals and educators. Merger with Higher Education in EPLS is on the horizon. This indicates considerable collaboration between units to provide focus and improvements in each program. This collaboration could be the model that additional units in the College of Education could follow.

Students interested in the Student Development in Postsecondary Education MA degree are largely practitioners at various levels of education. The program limits admission to the number who can be supported on campus in assistantships. Selectivity and diversity are issues, but students complete degrees in a reasonable period of time and obtain appropriate employment positions. Discussions are also underway for the merger of the MA program into EPLS.