Task Force on Graduate Education: Selective Excellence

Program Ratings and Rationale

Program: Urban and Regional Planning M.A., M.S. Program
Rating: High Quality

This professional accredited masters’ program strives to educate students for the practice of planning. The program takes 2 years to complete and the completion rate is excellent. Graduates are successful in finding appropriate placements. Funding is consistent with other master's programs at Iowa, with top students receiving financial assistance. Some students are supported through grants and through local planning agencies. The program would like to grow from its current size of ~60 students to ~80 students. This will require replacement of two faculty members and adding a third faculty member through the sustainability initiative. The program also partners with the Iowa Public Policy Center. The new director hired in 2008 brings national visibility to this high quality program.