Background
The Animal Science major is the largest major in the School of Agriculture. Since 1997 the Animal Science major has averaged 147 students comprising approximately 37% of all Agriculture majors.

1. What evidence do you have that students achieve your stated learning outcomes?

Outcomes:

- Students support the scientific evidence for safety of world food supplied through science based production practices
- Students can examine and evaluate various perspectives of animal health and welfare
- Students can analyze the structure of regional, national and international policies that affect bio-security in food animal production
- Competent in application of computerized technology
- Utilization of proven physical and chemical analyses
- Evaluate genetic selection and performance programs
- Appreciate and apply quality assurance programs for products
- Recognize and compare optimal and maximal production practices for sustainability

Evidence: Employers hire and graduate and veterinary schools admit UWP Animal Science majors. They are extremely competitive in the job market and post graduate admissions.

✓ Placement rate of graduates extremely high (nearly 100%)
✓ 40% of the 2005 School of Ag Interns were Animal Science majors
✓ 4 Animal Science students have won national intern scholarships with the US Department of Agriculture Meat Grading Division since 1990
✓ A current Animal Science major received one of 4 national research internships at the University of Nebraska for the summer of 2006
✓ Employer ratings of interns mostly “superior”
✓ National and international companies employ Animal Science majors (ABS Global, CRI-Genex, Ft. Dodge Animal Health, Growmark, Inc., Land O’ Lakes, Vita Plus, Big Gain, Covance, Alta Genetics, Accelerated Genetics, US Department of Ag, Tyson Foods and numerous others)
✓ Excellent veterinary school admission rate (15 former UWP Animal Science students currently in Veterinary Schools in Wisconsin, Iowa and Illinois)
✓ Currently, 2 UWP Animal Science graduates are graduate research assistants at UW-Madison and 1 at the University of Arkansas. Dr. Kent Weigel, a recent UWP Animal Science graduate, is a lead geneticist in the Animal Science Department at UW-Madison.
Outcomes:

- Students value and enhance their communication skills with liberal arts and science based knowledge
- Increase self confidence and comfort level during public speaking
- Students demonstrate ability to independently investigate, analyze and conclude decisions clearly and concisely
- Collect and analyze information and compose professional, technical reports

Evidence: Animal Science majors are extremely active in clubs and activities that enhance inter-personal and communication skills, teach life lessons, increase leadership abilities and reward work ethic.

- The Dairy Club has 70 members and completely organizes, budgets, promotes and clerks an annual dairy cow sale that nets approximately $5,000 annually for Club educational activities
- The Block & Bridle Club has 50 members and hosts 2 livestock Preview shows annually that earn $2,000 for Club educational activities
- Block & Bridle members plan, organize, promote and host an on-campus livestock evaluation clinic that attracted over 200 high school agriculture students this fall
- Five Animal Science students have received Pioneer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (PURF) Awards since 1997
- The Meat Animal Evaluation and Academic Quadrathalon Teams are extremely competitive in regional and national contests.

Outcomes:

- Generate interest and increased participation in cross cultural experiences
- Expand student’s comfort zone for global pursuits
- Benefit from external professional inputs of diverse backgrounds

Evidence: UWP Animal Science students are more frequently utilizing opportunities available to them to increase their global awareness.

- 44 Agriculture students have participated in cross-cultural experiences (educationally related international travel) since 2001 to UK, Netherlands, Quebec, China, Germany, France and 2 will be going to Spain in Spring 2007
- The School of Agriculture has hosted 10 Dutch students for a semester of study, and 25 Dutch students for shorter study tours
- Numerous Animal Science students have taken advantage of the National Student Exchange program and have studied at Universities in Arizona, Georgia, New Mexico and Nebraska
2. What have you learned as a result?

We, as an Animal Science faculty, have been impressed and enthused with the acceptance of our graduates in vocations throughout the animal agriculture area. Our graduates are sought after by employers because of their solid scientific background coupled with a tremendous work ethic. Our graduates historically have been well accepted for post graduate study in institutions all across the US. Many leadership roles in Wisconsin companies, research labs, educational institutions and cooperative extension are held by former and recent UWP Animal Science graduates.

3. What, if any changes will you make in order to improve student learning?

While compiling this report we have become aware of several tools that would help us to improve our student learning. These would include the following:

1. Improve the tracking of graduates. Currently, we have difficulty determining if they continue on in graduate school or take a job.
2. Perform an alumni survey. We have not done one in recent years. We feel their input would be beneficial in improving our curriculum.
3. Form an Animal Science Advisory Board when needed to review specific areas of the curriculum.