



Assessment of Doctoral Programs at Ohio State

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Council of Graduate Schools

Summer Workshop

Goals

- Identify doctoral programs that will enhance the standing of Ohio State
- Identify weak, non-core programs and develop a plan for disinvesting in them
- Reallocate resources to the strongest programs

Process

- A three-way partnership of Graduate School, Academic Affairs, and the colleges
- Used data compiled for NRC survey plus additional information
- Each college submitted a report assessing its programs
- Graduate School and faculty review committee reviewed college reports and prepared findings and recommendations for the Provost

Indicators

- GRE scores
- Placement of doctoral graduates
- Overall program quality and centrality
- Time to candidacy and time to degree
- Percentage of entering students completing Ph.D.
- Student diversity

Criteria for Enhancement

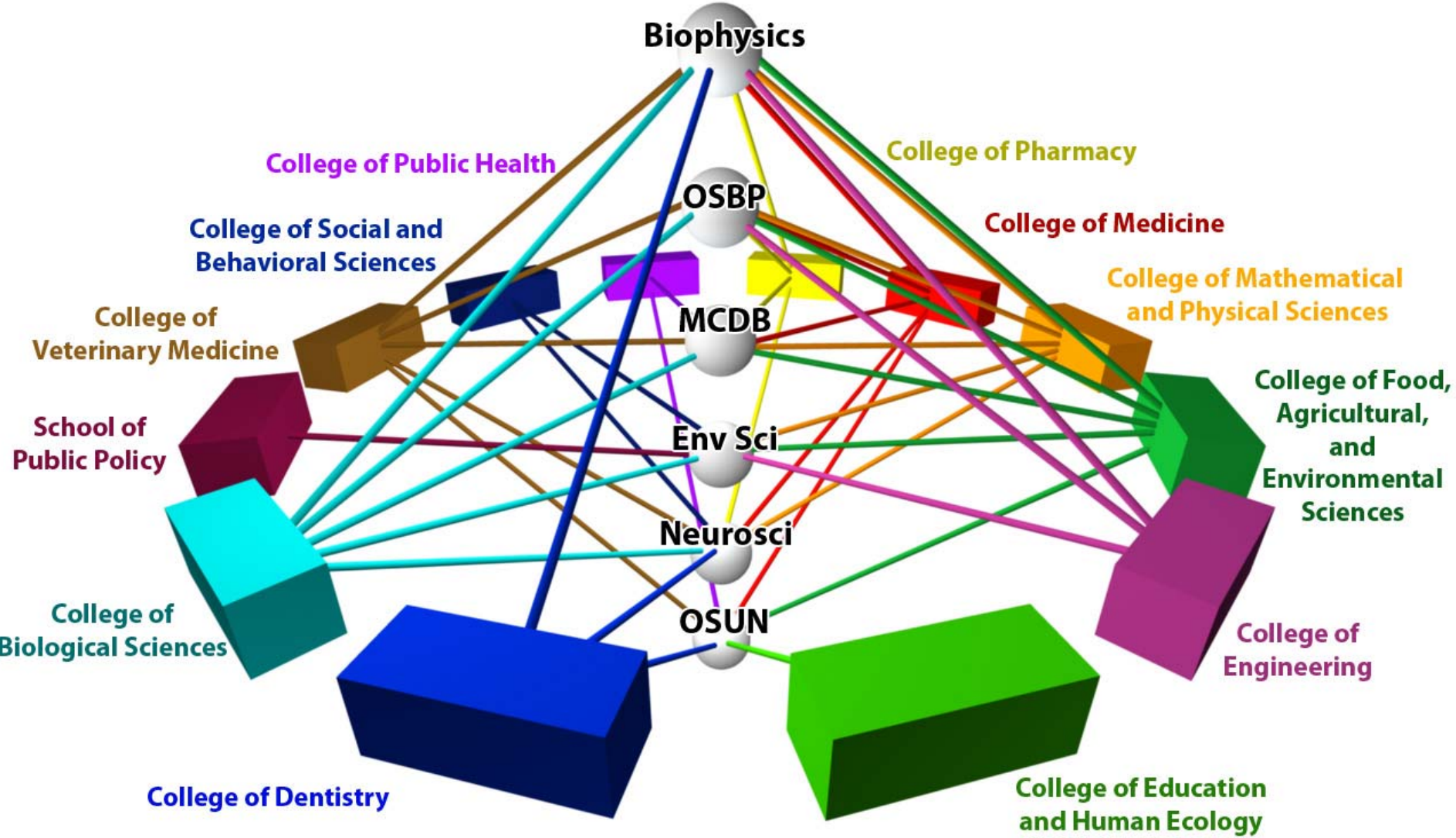
- New or emerging opportunities where Ohio State can excel
- Gaining a competitive edge
- Improvements in addressing diversity
- New approaches to recruiting high-quality students
- Commitment of department and college to strengthening the program

Classification

- Doctoral programs can be classified into 6 groups:
 - High Quality (12 programs)
 - Strong (17)
 - Good (16)
 - New and/or Developing (11)
 - Reassess and/or Restructure (29)
 - Disinvest or Eliminate (5)

University-Wide Findings

- Need to assess and improve structure and organization of the 21 doctoral programs in the biological and life sciences
- Need similar effort for earth and environmental sciences, which are spread across 8 colleges
- Implement advanced practice doctoral degrees in some professional and health programs so that Ph.D. programs can focus on research



Outcomes

- Enhance central fellowship stipends and multi-year support packages for the top 29 programs
- Form task forces to address the organization and structure of the biological and life sciences and of the earth and environmental sciences

Next Steps

- Colleges to respond to specific issues in the strategic plans they are preparing for the provost
- Deans to report annually on progress in doctoral programs
- Repeat entire process on 4-5 year time scale

For More Information

- Graduate School report, college reports, and data are all available on the internet
- See link on Graduate School web site www.gradsch.ohio-state.edu
- Click on “Doctoral Program Assessment”