



2024-25 Annual Program Update - Geography

Program Overview

Please verify your program's mission statement and program's learning outcomes below and make any corrections necessary.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Geography Department is to teach our diverse student community to understand the natural and cultural environments of the region and around the world, to be critical consumers of environmental advocacy, and to appreciate the beauty and wonder of the planet and its diversity.

Geography – A.A. Degree Program Learning Outcomes

1. Describe the spatial organization of the world's peoples, nations, cultural environments
2. Demonstrate knowledge of global physical and environmental processes and develop an appreciation of landscapes.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of how human activities impact the physical environment.

List your program faculty and/or staff and indicate whether they are full-time or part-time.

Cady Carmichael (Full time Geography faculty)
Maret Bartlett (Part time Geography faculty)
Jeremy Patrich (Part time Geography faculty)
Aubrey Rose (Part time Geography faculty)
Danielle Widemann (Part time Geography faculty)
Chevonn Herbert (STEM Division Staff Assistant)

Describe your current utilization of facilities, including labs and other space.

As stated in the 2023-24 Program Review, the College of Alameda administration removed the historic Geography classroom (D-222) space from use by college faculty (in October 2021). This was done without notice or consultation of the department and chairs. Since this occurred, the chairs and administration agreed to temporarily hold in-person classes in H-222. In September 2023, the D-222 classroom was made available again for use by the Geography Department beginning for the Spring 2024 term.

D-222 is only another temporary solution to our science/lab facilities crisis. The Geography and Geology Departments need a safe, sufficient dedicated shared lecture and lab space.

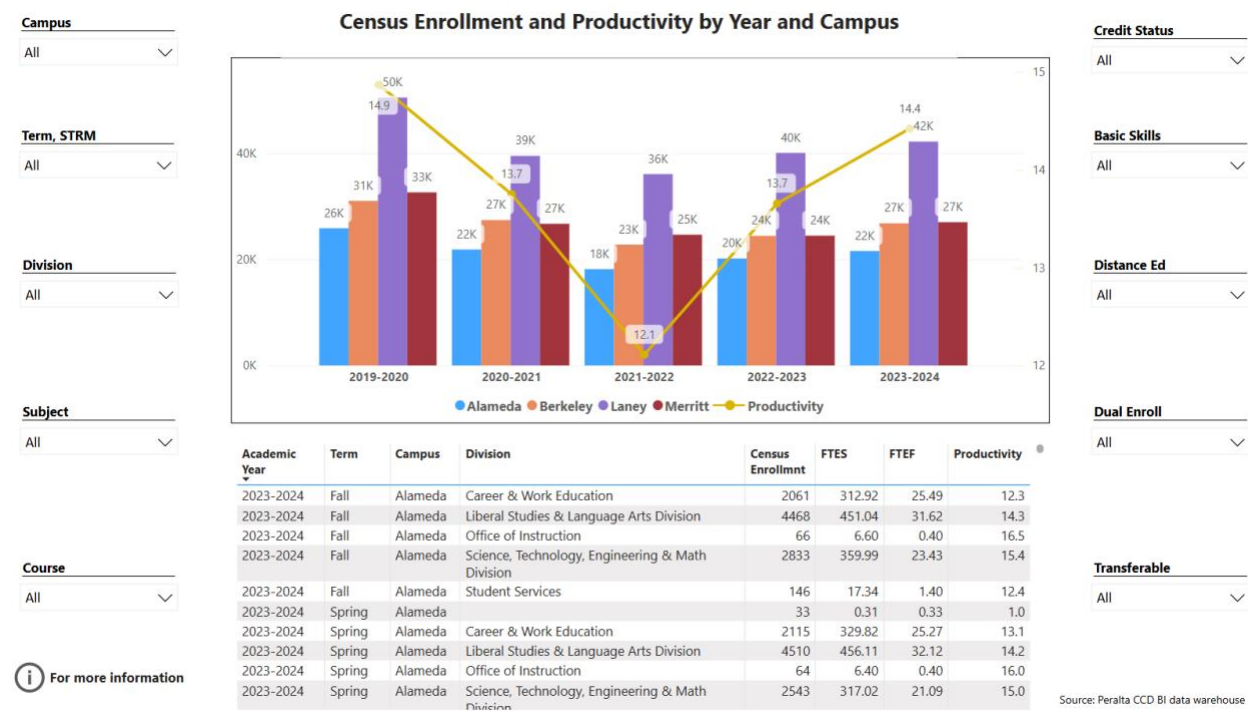
The Program Goals below are from your most recent Program Review or APU. If none are listed, please add your most recent program goals. Then, indicate the status of this goal, and which College and District goal your program goal aligns to. If your goal has been completed, please answer the follow up question regarding how you measured the achievement of this goal.

Program Goal	<i>Student learning outcomes (SLOs) for all Geography courses have been assessed (2022-23 APU).</i>
Status: In-Progress or Complete? If complete, give a brief description of how you measured the goal completion.	In-Progress: the department has created a plan to assess the remaining SLOs for GEOG 1, 1L, 3, 15, & 18. This will take place during the Fall 2024 and Spring 2025 terms.
Which college or district goal is aligned with your program goal?	Establish integrated planning and evaluation system (College Goal); Build Programs of Distinction (District Goal).

Program Goal	<i>Expand other/additional course offerings, such as Environmental Geography, Climatology, Weather and Climate, and California Geography will be submitted for approval on an ongoing basis (2022-23 APU)</i>
Status: In-Progress or Complete? If complete, give a brief description of how you measured the goal completion.	Complete: GEOG 15: Weather & Climate and GEOG 18: California Geography are both approved and active courses and have been offered at least two semesters. Both courses are fully integrated into our department planning schedule.
Which college or district goal is aligned with your program goal?	Advance Teaching and Learning (College Goal); Build Programs of Distinction (District Goal).

Program Goal	<i>Participate in STEM outreach, recruitment efforts, and student service partnerships to expand student awareness of our course offerings and science-based careers (2022-23 APU).</i>
Status: In-Progress or Complete? If complete, give a brief description of how you measured the goal completion.	In-Progress: The Geography Department faculty have participated in several CoA campus student events and community outreach events during the Spring 2024 and Fall 2024 terms. The department is proactively becoming involved with other programs, events, and partnerships.
Which college or district goal is aligned with your program goal?	Advance Teaching and Learning (College Goal); Build Programs of Distinction (District Goal).

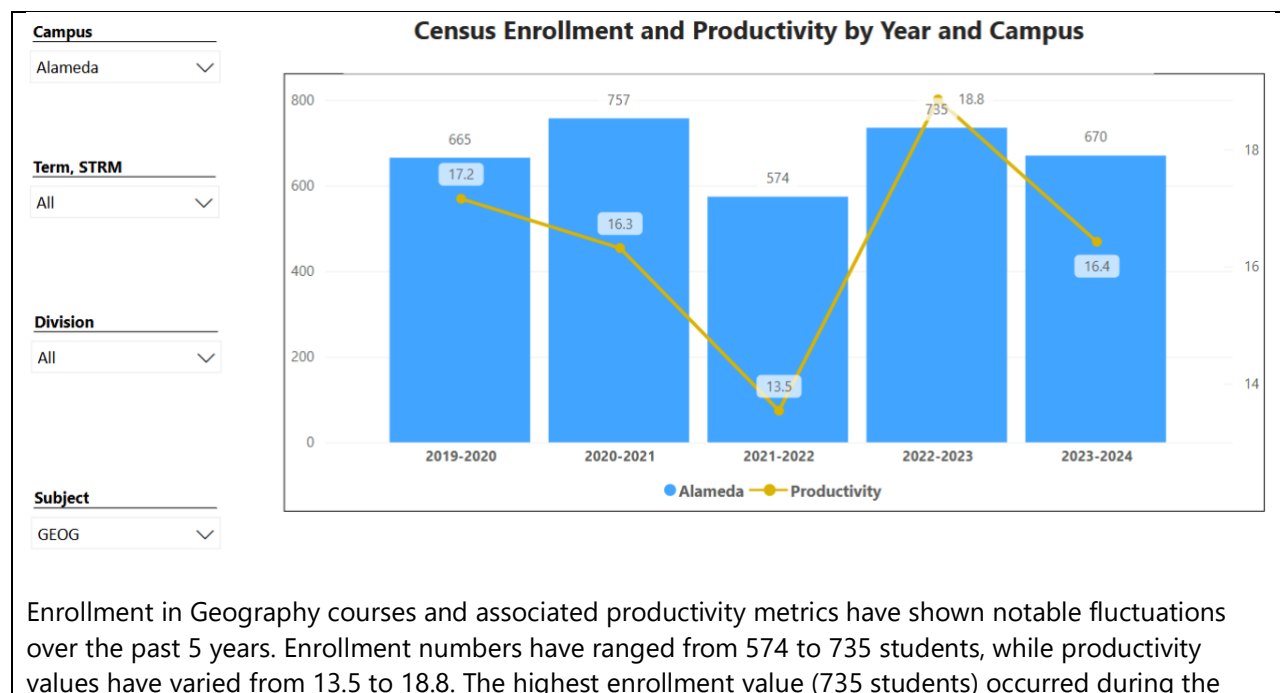
Program Update – Enrollment Trends, Success Rates, and Degrees & Certificates



Enrollment Trends Power BI dashboard

Note: Please consider the most recent years when answering the questions below. Data with default filter is provided below. Use the link above to explore the data further.

Discuss recent enrollment trends. District-wide enrollment trends are shown above for comparison.



Spring 2022 – Fall 2023 academic year. However, both enrollment and productivity have experienced a recent decline in the Spring 2023 – Fall 2023 academic year.

Between Spring 2019 and Fall 2021, productivity remained fairly stable, ranging from 16.3 to 17.2. A significant decline in productivity occurred from Spring 2021 – Fall 2022, dropping to 13.5, before rebounding to its highest level of 18.8 between Spring 2022 and Fall 2023. Most recently, productivity has decreased to 16.4 between the Spring 2023 – Fall 2024 academic year.

In comparison to district-wide trends, Geography courses at College of Alameda have consistently outperformed in terms of productivity over the past 5 years.

Several factors have contributed to these enrollment and productivity trends. The COVID-19 pandemic obviously played a significant role in the fluctuations in enrollment, affecting not only the Geography Department, but also colleges and universities at the local, state, and national levels. The shift to remote learning and changes in student preferences required institutions to rapidly adapt. The recent rebound in enrollment and productivity may reflect a return to some degree of normalcy, as well as the efforts of departments and colleges to successfully navigate these challenges and re-engage students.

Another contributing factor has been the increased marketing and outreach initiatives led by the District Office, College of Alameda, Student Services, Administration, and faculty. These coordinated efforts have helped raise awareness of the Geography Department's offerings and attract more students. Curriculum revisions and scheduling changes have also played a role. As noted on pg. 2, the Geography Department has expanded its course offerings to include two new courses. Additionally, we have proactively coordinated scheduling with Geography Departments across the district to minimize scheduling conflicts and avoid competition for student enrollment.

Faculty have also implemented various strategies to enhance student engagement and address the unique challenges posed by the pandemic. These strategies include leveraging interactive tools and resources, maintaining consistent and open communication, fostering peer-to-peer learning and collaboration, and offering flexible assessment options. Faculty have prioritized improving students' digital literacy, recognizing the diverse backgrounds of our students, and incorporating culturally responsive teaching practices. Furthermore, the adoption of open educational resources (OER) and zero-textbook-cost (ZTC) materials has helped reduce barriers to access. Faculty have also engaged in ongoing professional development to refine their teaching practices and remain responsive to students' emotional and psychological needs, connecting them with appropriate support services as necessary.

[Course Completion Power BI Dashboard #1](#)

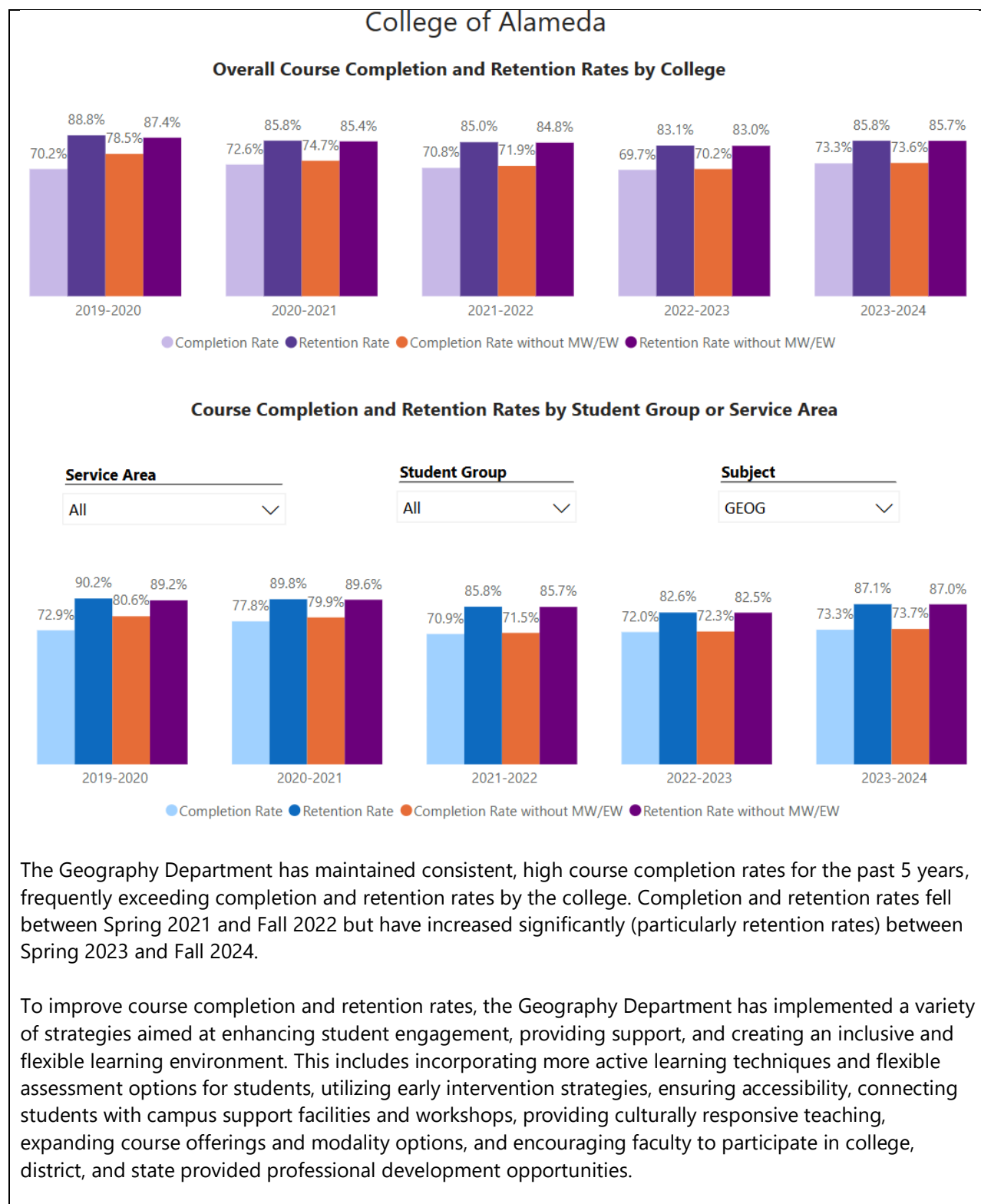
[Course Completion Power BI Dashboard #2](#)

[Institutional Set Standards](#)

Consider your course completion rates in recent years (% of student who earned a grade of "C" or better). Data with default filter is provided below. Use the link above to explore the data further.

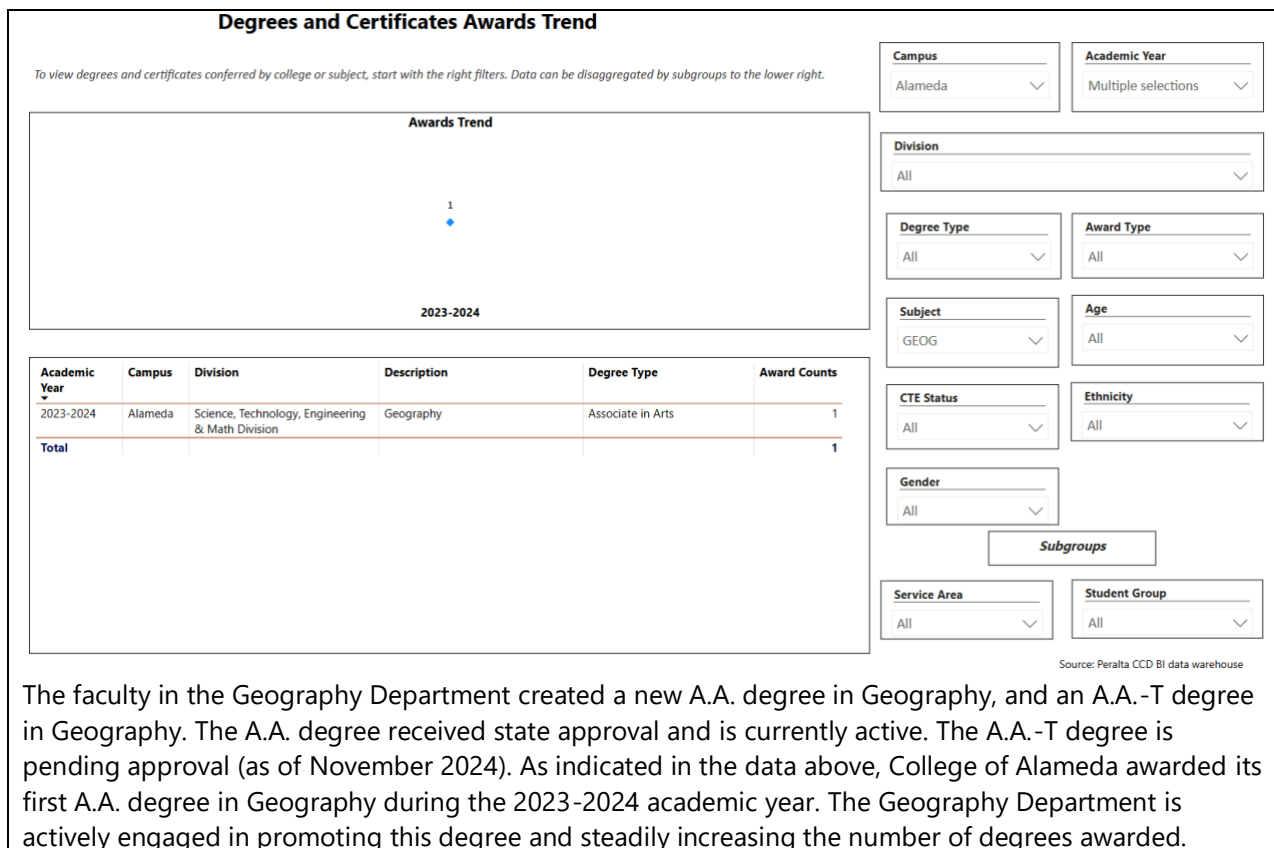
How does the course completion rate for your program or discipline compare to your college's Institutional Set Standard for course completion (70% with stretch goal of 77%)? Also discuss the

retention rate for your program or discipline, compared to the college average shown in data below, as well as what the discipline, department, or program has done to improve course completion and retention rates.



Degrees & Certificates Power BI dashboard

Please provide an update on the degrees and certificates offered by the discipline, department, or program. Below data shows the number of degrees and certificates awarded by year, for the past three years. Use the link above to explore the data further.



Describe any significant changes in the recent years and discuss what the changes mean to your program.

As noted on pg. 1, our biggest challenge as a department over the past 5 years is the lack of a designated safe and sufficient on-campus facility space. This has resulted in less in-person course offerings for students.

Describe the department's progress on Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) and/or Service Area Outcomes (SAOs) since the last Program Review/APU.

The department as created a plan to assess the remaining SLOs for GEOG 1, 1L, 2, 3, 14, 15, & 18. This will take place during the Fall 2024 and Spring 2025 terms and will then follow a three-year repeatable pattern. The new assessment sequence will begin using courses offered in Fall 2024. SLO 1 will be assessed in all courses offered Fall 2024. SLO 2 will be assessed in all courses offered in the 2024-2025 academic year, and SLO 3 will be assessed in all courses in the 2025-2026 academic year. This will ensure all SLOs

continue to be assessed within the three-year cycle at least once during the academic year in which the courses are offered.

SLO findings over the past year have indicated that all courses have met the intended learning objectives and academic standards, and that student learning has aligned with the stated learning objectives for the course and department. Faculty have used this valuable data to (a) reinforce teaching methods and technologies being successfully implemented, (b) allocate supply and equipment funds appropriately and effectively, and (c) identify areas where students may be struggling to target support and improve student success rates.

Describe the outcomes and accomplishments from previous year's funded resource allocation request. If your program did not receive any allocations, leave the boxes blank.

Brief description of funded request	Source (any additional award outside your base allocation)	Total Award Amount	Outcome/Accomplishment
Replacement of old/damaged globes, topographic maps, and other lab supplies and equipment		\$2000	Maintain current lecture and lab supplies and equipment.

Prioritized Resource Requests Summary

In the boxes below, please add resource requests for your program. If there are no resource requested, leave the boxes blank.

Resource Category	Description/Justification	Full-Time Equivalent Percentage	Salary Grade (if applicable)
Personnel: Classified Staff			
Personnel: Student Worker			
Personnel: Part Time Faculty	As the Geography Department continues to grow and expand its offerings, additional part-time faculty members may be needed to help meet demand.	0.2	

Personnel: Full Time Faculty			
Personnel: Full Time Faculty, future anticipated need			

Resource Category	Description/Justification	Total Estimated Cost
Professional Development: Department wide PD needed		
Professional Development: Personal/Individual PD needed		

Prioritized Resource Requests Summary - Continued

Resource Category	Description/Justification	Total Estimated Cost
Supplies: Software	Upgraded and continued funding of the ArcGIS software license is critical to the offering of GEOG 14 as well as providing faculty with the opportunity to integrate mapping components into their courses.	\$2,000
Supplies: Books, Magazines, and/or Periodicals		
Supplies: Instructional Supplies	At least \$1,000 is needed to maintain and/or replace instructional supplies for lecture and lab activities.	\$1,000
Supplies: Non-Instructional Supplies		

Supplies: Library Collections		

Resource Category	Description/Justification	Total Estimated Cost
Technology & Equipment: New		
Technology & Equipment: Replacement		

Prioritized Resource Requests Summary - Continued

Resource Category	Description/Justification	Total Estimated Cost
Facilities: Classrooms	Renovations leading to the development of a dedicated lecture and lab teaching space for the Geography and Geology Departments are need as soon as possible.	N/A
Facilities: Offices		
Facilities: Labs		
Facilities: Other		

Resource Category	Description/Justification	Total Estimated Cost
Library: Library materials		
Library: Library collections		

Resource Category	Description/Justification	Total Estimated Cost
OTHER		