

process will include an Ongoing Improvement Program
be considered as part of the program's next cyclical

The purpose of this report is to provide an update of
implementation plan following

Next Steps (if applicable)

Because of COVID-19 limitations on normal group consultation in 2021, and considering the specialties of the recent hires (see below), this current DES strategic plan may merit reconsideration within the next few years (2024 or 2025).

Additional Comments

Examine applying for APF and
Innovation funds for initiatives to
expand the role of earth science
instruction at

Note: The total number of expandable text boxes will be dependent on the number of prioritized recommendations appearing in the program's most recent Final Assessment Report (FAR).

Continuous Program Enhancement

What additional initiatives or changes has the program been working on in relation to continuous program improvement?

The department is fortunate to have been able to hire Dr. Alina Shchepetkina to cover the field of sedimentary geology pending Dr. Guy Plint's retirement in July 2023. Dr. Shchepetkina will bring a fresh perspective to the discipline, and will soon start to build her research group and facilities. The department had also recently hired Dr. Jeremiah Schuster, a geomicrobiologist who will fill the long-vacated position of Dr. Gordon Southam. Dr. Schuster will revitalize interest in geo-microbial processes, and will interact with the mining, environmental and geological fields. The newly-endowed Robert Hodder Chair in Mineral Deposits Geology is currently at the candidate search stage, with an offer soon to be made. We anticipate that that position will be filled