

Final Assessment Report  
Submitted by SUPB to SCAPA

### Executive Summary

On June 16th and 17th, 2014, the review team interviewed a large group of graduate students (~ 30 of them) on the main campus and at ICFAR, the Dean and Associate Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, the Chair, Graduate Chair and the Director of the MEng Program, both junior and senior faculty members. There is strong leadership from the Chair and the Graduate Coordinator and good support from the Graduate Assistant, technologists, and Western Libraries.

- x The department has the human, physical, and financial resources to be one of the leading chemical engineering research programs in Canada.

### Opportunities for improvement & Enhancement:

The reviewers identified a number of concerns from the site visit and review of the supporting briefs.

- x The department is a collection of goals. This lack of largely independent research programs with common goals is a concern. The department is approaching a retirement wave over the next 10 years and there seems to be no common vision for the future and no succession plan to ensure that the department maintains healthy programs of research and teaching and establishes and maintains common goals and vision.
- x Individual labs are located in physically distributed research facilities. Students identify more with their supervisor and lab than with the Department. This combination



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| competitive with other programs; Review 78% scholarship policy.  | Department Chair, Faculty                             |  |             |
| Ensure effective and appropriate use of research equipment:<br>1. Develop space allocation and equipment plan and policies to ensure full and effective use of research space, equipment, and consumables.<br>2. Establish training, standard operating procedures, and enforcement policy for the use of personal protective equipment. | Department chair, Dean                                |  | Immediately |
| Encourage building student cohesion and identity across the department as a whole.   | Department  |  |             |
| Require at least one meeting annually between thesis students and their advisory committees to ensure progress<br>Review the implementation of and adherence to the provisions of the GTA collective   | Graduate faculty, Graduate Chair, Graduate Assistants |  | Ongoing     |