

## **Continuous Improvement**

The Forestry Department at Vancouver Island University continually evaluates and improves the program with the goal to maintain currency in the content and learning outcomes of the courses and instruction methodologies.

The process involves the following:

1. Meet regularly with our Advisory Committee
2. Periodically solicit feedback from the student body, past graduates and the forestry sector
3. Meet periodically with the Centre for Innovation and Excellence in Learning (CIEL) at VIU
4. Embrace the regular program review process at VIU
5. Implement suggestions from the above, as practical and appropriate

Attached are:

1. Minutes from the last two a Forest Advisory Committee meetings
2. Report from the 2011-12 VIU Program Review

Recent changes made to the program based on meetings with the CIEL include a re-write of all learning objectives for all forestry courses in the program. The goals were to:

- Ensure the wording of the learning outcomes was succinct and measureable
- Minimize overlaps and gaps in outcomes
- Ensure that the outcomes were are the appropriate level of Bloom's taxonomy

In addition ten broad, program-level outcomes were adopted by the department:

- math skills appropriate to my field
- reading & comprehending material appropriate to my field
- analyzing information & thinking critically
- working collaboratively with others
- speaking effectively
- thinking creatively and flexibly to solve problems
- independent learning
- resolving issues or conflicts
- using technology appropriate to my field
- writing clearly and concisely
- digital information literacy

These outcomes have been directly incorporated into FRST course outlines.