Summary of Botany and Plant Pathology Graduate Program Review

Two major issues identified.

1) Need a strategic plan for hiring.
   Please see section 2, Summary of Findings and Recommendations, first and third paragraphs on pg 2; section 3B6, pp 8-9; and conclusion 2, pg 13.
   
   There is a strong and productive faculty that appear to be spread too thin with respect to teaching, research and service. The areas of Ecology and Cell and Molecular Biology are considered understaffed.

2) Need a strategic plan developing adequate support
   Please see section 2, Summary of Findings and Recommendations, second paragraph, pg 1; section 3B4, pg 6; section 3B8, pg 10; and conclusion 3, pg 13

   Multiple issues.
   - Level of student support not competitive with comparable institutions
   - Use of returned indirect costs to fund GTA positions
   - Question of whether/how department receives credit for teaching courses in Biology program.
   - Department does not appear to offer eCampus courses – potential revenue generator?

Three minor issues

1) Facilities
   Please see section 2, Summary of Findings and Recommendations, second paragraph on pg 2; section 3B7, pg 9;; and conclusion 4, pg 14
   
   Suggestion that if alternative funding could be found for GTAs, then returned indirect costs could be focused on upgrades to facilities.

2) Need to modernize course offerings
   Please see section 2, Summary of Findings and Recommendations, third paragraph on pg 1; section 3B5, pp 6-8;
   
   Concern with the use of 300/500 slash courses.
   Course cancellations due to insufficient enrollment
   This creates the related issue regarding advising (conclusion 5)

3) Low international student enrollments
   Please see section 3B2, second paragraph on pg 5; section 3B3 pg 5;
   
   Given the current revenue model where departments receive subsidies for international students, BPP should place more effort on attracting high quality international students