



## **Economics Departments**

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### **Best Practices for COPLAC Economics Programs**

1. Student learning outcomes are guided and assessed by Hansen's six proficiencies:
  - a. Access existing knowledge
  - b. Display command of existing knowledge
  - c. Interpret existing knowledge
  - d. Interpret and manipulate economic data
  - e. Apply existing knowledge
  - f. Create new knowledge
2. Demonstrate the relevance of economic thinking to all students by methods including interdisciplinary courses.
3. Demonstrate the importance and process of critical thinking, including analyzing issues from multiple perspectives. Require students to apply critical thinking skills.
4. Departments promote active student-centered learning across the curriculum, co-occurricular activities, and international experiences.
5. Demonstrate the power and limitations of models to illuminate cause and effect of historic and contemporary issues.
6. Mentor students through a senior capstone experience.

### **Recommendations to COPLAC Colleagues**

1. Ensure class sizes are small enough to allow a more personal educational learning environment.
2. Provide course credit and/or remuneration along with professional recognition (including credit toward promotion and tenure) to faculty supervising undergraduate research.

3. Provide support for economics faculty to develop expertise and to deliver courses beyond the confines of their discipline with professional recognition (including credit toward promotion and tenure).
4. Provide funds, training, and staffing for interdisciplinary and related faculty development and scholarship.
5. Provide resources to internationalize and diversify the economics curriculum, including faculty lines where needed (complimentary learning abroad programs).
6. Provide sufficient tenure track positions with competitive salaries and benefits to retain faculty for long-term student advising and institutional development.
7. Provide appropriate library and technology resources to support effective teaching and undergraduate research.
8. Provide support for faculty exchanges, visits, and collaborations with COPLAC institutions.