

OIT ABET Evaluator Visit History

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As an ABET Evaluator, one college I visited was OIT (Oregon Institute of Technology).

Every OIT member of the engineering faculty taught four courses "with labs" per semester. There were no teacher assistants.

Every OIT engineering class had "two 1-hour lectures" and "one 3-hour lab" "every week" for "every class". They would implement, in "every lab", the contents of the "previous two lectures". With this sequence, the students learned to apply what they had learned earlier in the week!!!

At the OIT student interviews, they told me that they felt overworked. However, they also told me that they knew way more than their friends at other colleges.

The OIT lab was the size of a gym! The lab included large equipment such as a six-foot long tank to study fluid flow! OIT had the students design and build the lab equipment. This was an exceptional learning experience for the students!

As part of a PEV visit, I always met with an advisory council. It was commonly with three or four people from industry. At OIT there were 30+ people from industry there! Those companies were hiring every OIT engineering student they could!

The OIT Advisory Council members made comments. I don't recall specific examples - was too long ago - except one. That Advisory Council member worked at an electric power company. They hired an OIT graduate.

During the first year, that OIT graduate designed and built an electrical distribution substation! One of the OIT labs had a wind generator that produced electricity!

That was impressive! It helped me comprehend the depth of knowledge of OIT engineering students!