Directions for Undergraduate Program Director Reports:

1.Talk to students in your major, ask around if there are any current academic issues.(ex: class conflicts within the major, issues with professors, etc)

2.Look at Degree Navigator, write down the course requirements

3.Formulate a list of things you would like to know about the program (corporateconnections with the university, current research projects, opportunities for studentsto get involved, etc)

4.Email Undergraduate Program Director and Arrange Appointment

5.Fill out Undergraduate Report Sheet

Name: Ash C. Dunlevy

Major: Plant Sciences Date: December 4th, 2019

Semester: Fall 2019

Undergraduate Program Director: Ann Gould

UPD Contact Information:

ann.gould@rutgers.edu

I. Major Options - What options are offered within the major? How do they differ?

Offered is the General Plant Biology option, the Horticulture and Turfgrass option, and the Natural Products option

The Plant Science Major, General Plant Biology option is for students intending to pursue graduate study or research careers in laboratories. The Plant Science Major, Horticulture and Turfgrass Industry option is for students intending to pursue business careers in plant supported industries. Students in the Natural Products option specialize in one of two options: The Ethnobotany and Global Health specialization is designed for students with an interest in the roles plants play in human health, environmental issues, public policy, or sustainability. Students who select the Production of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants specialization will learn the additional skills needed for indoor and field cultivation of horticultural plants used for medicinal or other purposes.

III. Goals within the major - What are expectations of students post-graduation?

Departmental program learning goals include:

1. Describe basic knowledge about plant structure and function, fundamentals of plant growth and physiology, and principles of horticulture [technical proficiency];
2. Summarize broadly the role of plants in agriculture, society and the environment [context];
3. Communicate, in written and oral forms, plant science knowledge to peers and others in society [communication]; and
4. Critically formulate hypotheses, interpret data, and apply basic principles and practices of plant science to solve fundamental and practical problems [critical thinking].

As such, a student should be able to, post-graduation, be prepared for either further study in an academic context, or a job in the industrial and business world.

IV. Major Courses - What is the goal of each course? What should students belearning?

The department, alongside the classes essential to the basic scientific and practical understanding of plants, offers a number of more specific courses specialized towards a particular area of study within the field. Within these courses, students are able to pursue areas of particular interest, hopefully to build an understanding that can offer future benefit.

V. Concerns/Student issues with classes? How to resolve, suggestions?

No particular student issues with classes worth making note of. Occasionally, it is inconvenient that particularly specialized electives are offered every other year, but there is no logistically sound way to rectify this issue.

VI. Things going on within the major (Research, Visitors, Talks, Seminars within themajor)

Research is central to the major; every student requires experience based credits to graduate, and a large proportion of the professors have research-heavy roles in the university. There are a number of research farms just off campus that aid in this arrangement, as well as the multitude of greenhouses located on and off campus.

VII. Research Opportunities

Student research opportunities are many, as students are required to get hands-on experience in order to graduate. A number of professors are often particularly inclined to take on undergraduate assistance in their research endeavors, and there are, as such, many ways an undergraduate can become involved in research.

VIII. Job Outlook, suggestions for students in this major (ex: organizations to join, newsto pay attention to)

Students should expose themselves to a variety of different topics within the major, in order to determine what they have an interest in and would like to pursue further.

IX. Changes within the major in the upcoming year?

Other than managing the upcoming changes in scheduling, and a couple of potential new classes, nothing in particular.

No particular other general suggestions