



**AMERICAN SAMOA COMMUNITY
COLLEGE
Science Department**

Action Plan 2015-2016

DIVISION OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Through observations and course assessments, the science department has been and is continuing to improve the laboratory experience to address some of the challenges students are encountering in the science courses here at ASCC. Through upgrading equipment and hands-on activities during laboratory sessions, a more motivated and concept retaining student is what we are striving for. In addition to this, we are beginning to look into the viability of another science program besides marine science. This new program, it is hoped, will encourage more students to move towards science degrees and by doing so stimulate the department's other classes that are available such as chemistry II and physics that are currently seldom taught. Along with equipment upgrades, a need to seek ongoing teacher development in the areas of laboratory technique and proper equipment utilization will also be considered.

Acquiring Smart boards for science is another area that we will be pursuing. There is a wealth of options and methods that can be utilized to upgrade the delivery of scientific concepts that will aid in their retention.

Through the above areas it is the hope of the Science Department to address some of the issues identified in many, but certainly not all, of our students. Issues such as difficulty in grasping the mathematical evaluation of the scientific concepts, critical evaluation of outcomes of an experiment beyond the most elementary assumptions, and the general disconnect the students seem to have for science overall.