



COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC PLANNING AND REVIEW

Thursday, March 28, 2013
12-13 CAPR 19

TO: The Academic Senate
FROM: The Committee on Academic Planning Review (CAPR)
SUBJECT: 12-13 CAPR 19: Five-Year Program Review for History
PURPOSE: For Action by the Senate
ACTION REQUESTED: Acceptance of the Five-Year Program Review of the History BA and MA program in the College of Letters, Arts & Social Sciences at California State University East Bay; and it is recommended the program continues without modification. The date of the next Five-Year review is 2017-2018.

BACKGROUND:

At its meeting on February 7, 2013, CAPR invited members of the Department of History to orally present the outcome of their five-year review process completed in 2011-12 and submitted to CAPR for review in 2011-12 as prescribed in the Academic Program Review Procedures (08-09 CAPR 23 (revised)). Department of History Chair, Dr. Linda Ivey and Dr. Nancy Thompson, presented a summary of the History five-year review to CAPR, and participated in a question and answer session. Dr. Ivey noted that Dr. Thompson was Chair at the time of the last five year review.

OVERVIEW OF DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO CAPR:

The Department of History submitted a comprehensive self-study, including a review of the previous five year review, progress made on that review, a five year plan based on the AY 2011-2012 review, reviewer comments of the five year review, and an appendix. The appendix covers 417 pages of curricula vitae, department events, single subject credential documentation, and an extensive review of PLO and SLO assessment data.

CAPR ANALYSIS OF THE PROGRAM'S FIVE-YEAR REVIEW:

- Program
 1. Present curriculum offered takes advantage of current faculty strengths including the history of California and the West, and topical specialties in fields such as Native American and Women's history.
 2. The department has managed to offer courses in important fields thanks to the work of their effective and well-qualified lecturers, but curricular development is the province of regular faculty with current expertise in their fields.
 3. The department continues to reassess its curriculum on a regular basis. The Department has identified two areas of major importance for the next five years. First, they intend to provide

- students with practical experience to meet the needs of the job market. They plan to continue and strengthen their internship programs to prepare students for public history careers, and we will develop additional opportunities for graduate students to assist in the lower-division “mega-sections”. Second, they will respond with appropriate curriculum to emerging areas of interest. A former faculty member established a curricular foundation in the history of technology and medicine; over the next five years the department intends to build on that foundation so that the program reflects the importance of scientific developments in the modern world. A current faculty member, for example, is experimenting with a digital history course and is working with library staff in developing the course. The department also anticipates reworking its curriculum to reflect contemporary challenges—for instance, the issues of environment and sustainability.
4. The department is becoming more ethnically diverse. As noted, it is “the department is welcoming”.
 5. Extensive review of PLO and SLO assessment data was evident and curricula changes have been made based on outcome data (see appendix for examples).
- Resources
 1. The department currently has nine full time regular faculty members for 150 undergraduates and 30-50 graduate students. There is one Administrative Support Coordinator.
 2. Declining faculty numbers have limited the number of options that can be offered to students in a traditional “full service” history department. As noted, by the outside reviewer, Professor Cherny of SFSU, the department should be able to offer classes “in all the major regions of the world and over all the major time periods of history.” Unfortunately the only area in which there is adequate coverage by regular faculty at this time is in the US/California option.
 3. As identified by the outside reviewer, teaching workload, time for scholarship, support for additional department responsibilities, and support personnel resources need to be addressed. While creative methods might be employed to reduce faculty teaching load in favor of more time for scholarly activities, more assigned time for graduate and single subject advisor duties, public history coordinator, and office support staff are needed.

CAPR RECOMMENDATION(S) FOR CONTINUATION OF THE PROGRAM:

It is recommended that the BA and MA in History continue without modification. CAPR also recommends the program pursue the following:

- Work with the Provost’s office on addressing faculty and staffing resource allocation needs to provide an adequate breadth of courses, advising, and allow for the ability to fine tune options within the major.
- Continue its assessment work and include mapping ILO’s to program and student learning outcomes.
- Explore other course development opportunities across disciplines such as they have with the library.

DATE OF THE PROGRAM’S NEXT FIVE-YEAR REVIEW:

AY 2017-2018