CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST BAY

DESIGNATION CODE:  2007-08 CAPR 7
DATE SUBMITTED:   December 6, 2007

TO:  Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

FROM:  The Committee on Academic Planning and Review (CAPR)

SUBJECT:  Annual Monitoring of the Geological Sciences Programs

PURPOSE:  Informational Item

ACTION REQUESTED: None

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In the last five-year review of the degree programs in Geological Sciences, CAPR recommended annual monitoring between five-year reviews.

This year, CAPR chose to conduct this review by consulting the annual report provided by the programs and comparing the information to the concerns expressed in the 2006 CAPR report. The concerns expressed in the 2006 report related to attracting students, developing a growth strategy, and institutionalizing assessment.

In the annual report, there is a description of the 2007 merger between the Dept. of Geological Sciences and the Environmental Science B.S. program to create the Dept. of Earth and Environmental Sciences (recommended for approval by CAPR at that time). Further, the following are shown: enrollments have increased significantly in the last three years; articulation and outreach are being reviewed and addressed with community colleges generally, along with efforts to co-develop courses at Ohlone College that will articulate with their new Environmental Science AA program; assertive plans are being developed in the area of program recruitment; a new tenure-track hire is being recruited this year; and assessment is being addressed through specific learning activities, faculty review of capstone courses, and a survey of the professional geological community to identify needed skills and knowledge that will be used to guide program revisions. A Geology Program Advisory Committee is also being formed.

As a result, CAPR has decided that continued annual monitoring is no longer needed and the program can continue with its current efforts until its next five-year review in 2009-2010.

c.c.  Jeffery Seitz
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