TO: Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

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

SUBJECT: Annual Monitoring of the Spanish and French Programs

PURPOSE: Informational Item

ACTION REQUESTED: None

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In the last five-year review of the degree programs in Spanish and French, 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 for Spanish and French related to the need for re-building the department that teaches these programs. Concerns include: tenure-track hires, an upgrade to the language lab, the need for a lab director, the possibility of collaboration with nearby colleges and universities to offer languages a university of first choice should provide, and implementation of the external reviewer’s suggestions regarding curriculum, advising, and exit assessment.

In the annual report, CAPR notes that there has been progress towards meeting those goals. Spanish is currently the only major and has good enrollment, with wait listed courses at the intermediate level. The department’s request for a tenure-track position in French and Vietnamese was approved and is in the search process now. The various minors continue, albeit with still-limited sustainability. The department has finished working on the Subject Preparation Matter for Spanish and is moving forward with new proposals and languages, as appropriate. The programs continue to be active in the G.E. cluster, having submitted a proposal for a three-quarter sequence of Language, Culture, and Literature Study.

This year, the Spanish and French programs will undergo their five-year review and it is expected that they will be on a more sound footing than they were five years ago. It is also expected that the report will speak to the issues raised in the last five-year review.

c.c. Leticia Holbrook
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