Minutes of the Meeting of April 20, 2000

Members Present: Tom Acord-Chair, Asoke Basu, Frank Martino, Bijan Mashaw, Francisco Flamenco, Michael Hedrick, Sandra Heisey, Jennifer Laherty, Jane Lopus, Susan Opp, Mary Timney

Members Absent: Susan Sunderland

Guests: Pablo-Raul Arreola, Herb Eder, and Charlie Harper

The meeting was called to order by Chair Tom Acord at 2:06 PM in the President’s Conference Room.

Approval of Agenda: M/S/P

Approval of the minutes of the meeting of April 6, 2000: M/S/P

Report of the Chair:
Professor Susan Sunderland will be replacing CAPR member Jose Lopez for the Spring 2000 quarter.

Report of the Vice President, Academic Affairs: No report

Five Year Program Review - Latin American Studies
Professors Pablo-Raul Arreola and Herb Eder answered questions from CAPR. There has been a nation-wide decline in majors in area studies programs. Many universities are taking a global studies approach instead of separating Asian-American studies from Latin-American studies, etc. Many of our LAST majors are double majors. Most LAST students come into the program knowing the Spanish language. There is a minor in LAST, but the program has little knowledge of how popular it is. The program is beginning to talk to the School of Business and Economics about a possible bridge between the program and a degree in business. There is some thought about modeling a program here after the San Diego State combined program. The program is talking about transforming their 3000 course into a 1000 course and then combining it into the G.E. cluster program.

The program may pursue developing a certificate in translation. The current program at UCB extension is not doing well. Students have indicated that they would come to CSUH for such a certificate. CSUH may be able to carve out a niche in this area.
LAST will be looking for a new director of the program. The program isn't full enough to apply for much of the funding that is out there. Prof. Arreola would very much like for the new director to concentrate in this area. Since the faculty who teach in the program are from other departments, LAST must be mindful of other hires and actively seek out department chairs to make LAST needs known.

Motion to accept the Latin American Studies Five Year Review without modification to the program. CAPR strongly endorses some of the outside reviewers suggestions.

M/S/P [Yea 11, No 0, Abstentions 0]
Sandra Heisey will write CAPR's response to the review.

Five Year Program Review - Biology
Professors Susan Opp and Michael Hedrick answered questions from CAPR. CAPR was very pleased with the Biology program review. The department is pursuing plans to re-open the field station south of campus. The department has been somewhat successful in upgrading teaching equipment and the MAGIC facility has also been upgraded. The department would like to see more space given to new faculty. There is a continuing need to upgrade lab equipment as well. The department is in the process of implementing a biology series for the G.E. freshmen cluster so that biology majors can get through the 1300 sequence early enough to go on to other coursework. The department is developing an alumni database to monitor what happens to their students. Many of the majors go into molecular biology and biotechnology fields. The department is also in the process of developing outcomes assessment for their non-majors.

While it is true that part-time lecturers are teaching in the cluster program, the department is confident in their ability. These lecturers are long standing and have even developed the cluster courses. Since the new tenure-track faculty are coming in and being awarded grants, they don't teach as many lower-level courses. The department supports research because it does ensure that students are being taught the current methods and technologies. The research is directly affecting the quality of the education in a positive manner.

Motion to accept the Biology Department Five Year Review without modification to the program.

M/S/P [Yea 11, No 0, Abstentions 0]
Jane Lopus will write CAPR's response to the review.

Five Year Program Review - Physics
Professor Charlie Harper answered questions for CAPR. The department is modifying some of their courses for the new engineering requirements. Dr. Harper indicated that this could have a ripple effect in getting other Physics courses modified. There were strong recommendations by the outside reviewer to revamp the Physics program. While the courses at CSUH are typical of 99% of the physics programs in the U.S., it is strongly recognized these programs should be updated to include a new approach in delivering physics education. The approach in teaching physics is cemented in the notion of
combining lectures with labs and using a hands on approach.

The physics department is seeing more students in their courses due to the engineering program. There are approximately 8 majors now. Optimally, there could be 15-20. A generous donor to the department will allow for 3 scholarships to upper division students next year. The department recruits heavily in local K-14 schools. Though many students participate in the programs developed by the department, many come to school here and major in other disciplines. Nationwide, majors in all the math-based sciences are declining.

The department may pursue developing some options, possibly in applied physics or optics, but there first needs to be a cohort of students. There is no ongoing internship program in the department. Some students do pursue internships with help from the faculty.

Motion to accept the Physics Department Five Year Review without modification to the program, but with strong recommendations from CAPR to take the outside reviewers suggestions seriously.

M/S/P [Yea 11, No 0, Abstentions 0]
Sue Opp will write CAPR's response to the review.

Discussion of Five Year Program Review
Chair Acord passed out a draft copy of the Program Review document. CAPR members are strongly encouraged to review this document and pass along suggestions to Chair Acord.

The next CAPR meeting will be May 4.
The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 pm.

Submitted by,
Jennifer Laherty, Secretary