

Program Performance Review

Department of Kinesiology

Dean's Response to Department of Kinesiology Self-Study, External Review Report, and Departmental Response to Review Team Report

Submitted by

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This report is in response to the Program Performance Review (PPR) self-study completed by the Department of Kinesiology (KNES), the report submitted by the review team, and the departmental response to the review team report. The PPR external review team included: Dr. Tamar Semerjian, chair and professor in the Department of Kinesiology at San Jose State University, Dr. Ray Leon, professor in the School of Kinesiology at CSU Los Angeles, and Dr. Jason Shepard, chair and professor in the Department of Communications at CSUF. This report is organized to address general observations, strengths/commendations, and recommendations for key areas to be addressed.

General Observations

The department of Kinesiology completed a thorough and thoughtful self-study. The Department engaged in a more collaborative process for this PPR compared to previous reviews. This is likely to lead to more buy-in and faculty engagement in accomplishing the goals established in this current PPR. As part of this process, the Department revised their Mission and Vision statements to increase emphasis on teaching and dissemination of knowledge. The Kinesiology Department is the largest academic unit in the College of Health and Human Development serving approximately 2,000 students. Kinesiology undergraduate students comprise approximately 5% of the undergraduate students at CSUF.

Commendations:

- Established a master's program in Athletic Training in response to new requirements that athletic trainers attend a master's level program
- The Department serves a large number of students. Data indicates that CSUF conferred the second largest number of bachelor's degrees in "Parks, recreation, leisure, and fitness studios" in the United States.
- Applications, admissions, and enrollments increased significantly during the period of review despite declining enrollment in higher education generally.
- Graduation and retention rates improved during the period of review.
- Improvements were made to the curriculum including making the general studies concentration more flexible.
- Program assessment implementation is thoughtful and systematic. The Department is encouraged to engage in conversations to "close the loop" in pedagogy if there are areas identified in which students do not meet competency.
- The Department has implemented a creative approach to advising despite a very large advisor to student ratio. Students feel connected to the advising team and feel that they are supported.

- External reviewers reported that undergraduate and graduate students reported high levels of satisfaction with the program, curriculum, faculty, and staff.
- The Department includes three strong Centers that provide opportunities for student engagement, faculty research and service, and community connections.

Recommendations:

- The Department is encouraged to continue to develop their intentional plan for the degree to which courses will be offered in online or hybrid formats.
- Equity gaps increased for first-time freshmen and transfer students during the period of review. Although this is true for the University overall, the Department saw larger increases than did the University. The Department is encouraged to continue to examine equity gaps and to develop and implement strategies to improve student success for underrepresented and Pell eligible students.
- There was a significant decrease in graduate program applications. The Department has reported that they are working on outreach and recruitment. The department is encouraged to continue developing and implementing a recruitment strategy for this program.
- The Department did not fully develop a long-term plan because they wanted to wait for the launch of the University's new Strategic Plan. They are encouraged to develop a long-term plan that is aligned with that Strategic Plan as well as College plans to operationalize the Strategic Plan.
- The structure of advising in the College of HHD, and consequently, in the Department has changed significantly in the past year. The Department is encouraged to continue to work collaboratively to strengthen advising to ensure that underrepresented, Pell eligible, and 1st generation students receive targeted interventions.
- There are perceived inequities among the faculty for supervising graduate students. The Department has begun to address this, however they are encouraged to formally adopt and disseminate an equitable process for supervision compensation.