Concluding Action Memorandum  
7th Cycle Program Review  
San Francisco State University  

Department of Economics  
College of Business  
Spring 2019

This memorandum is based upon the Academic Program Review Committee (APRC) process, grounded in the following source materials:

1. Department of Economics Self-Study, September 28, 2018  
3. Department response to the External Review Report, November 28, 2018  
4. College Dean response to documents, December 10, 2018  
5. Responses to APRC questions, March 18, 2019

These responses were used to construct an integrated review of the program's strengths, accomplishments, challenges and plans for future action.

Provost's Statement

The program review process should serve as a basis for strategic planning, including curricular changes, development of new courses, hiring plans, resource requests, and space allocation. Future proposals that affect any of these aspects of the program/department should refer to program review documents, including this concluding action memo.

Commendations

The APRC commends the Department of Economics for:

1. Strong leadership and teamwork that has nurtured a proactive, forward-looking, energetic, and collegial culture and environment.  
2. Productive faculty who integrate their teaching and research to enrich the learning experience for students and who actively involve students in research and publication.  
3. Extensive analysis of the annual assessment reports for the undergraduate and the graduate programs.  
4. Self-reflection and responsiveness that has fostered inclusivity, including promotion of economics as a second major to diversify its student body.
Recommendations

Based on the outcome of the program review, the Department of Economics is advised to take the following actions:

1. Continue to prepare students for multiple career goals:
   • by redesigning the curriculum to offer innovative and applied courses,
   • by collaborating with the career center of CoB; the Office of Career Services and Leadership Development, and the Institute for Civic and Community Engagement, to seek opportunities for internships, and provide guidance for career placement,
   • by enhancing the alumni survey system and alumni network.
2. Continue efforts to increase the enrollment of MA students by exploring different options ranging from increasing the pipeline and improving the alumni network, to redesigning the MA into an MS in quantitative economics.
3. Develop a long-term plan to hire faculty who can implement the aforementioned curricular innovation and to address the current high demand courses.
4. Create a professional advisory board to stay connected with business and industry.
5. Establish a mechanism to coordinate and ensure consistency in learning outcomes across multiple sections of large introductory courses.

CAM Follow-up Report

Two years after the CAM signing, the program submits a follow-up report to APRC outlining the steps taken to implement the CAM provisions. Subsequent follow-up reports can be requested by APRC.

Authorization

We hereby approve this concluding action memorandum:

Jennifer Shriver, University Provost
and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Date

Lori Beth Way, Dean of Undergraduate Education
and Academic Planning

Date

Sophie Clavier, Dean
Graduate Studies

Date