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

American Studies Program
College of Liberal and Creative Arts

Spring 2018

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

1. American Studies Self-Study, June 2017
3. Department response to the External Review Report, January 2018
4. College Dean response to documents, February 2018
5. Responses to APRC questions, February 2018

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 American Studies Program for:

1. Program’s resilience and commitment to interdisciplinarity, given the lack of dedicated resources.
2. Current faculty for their excellent scholarship, teaching, and their commitment to interdisciplinary pedagogy and “outward-facing orientation”.
3. The passion and commitment that faculty have demonstrated for the program and the students, through teaching, research and advising.
4. The opportunity to study U.S.-focused curriculum across disciplines in a largely self-designed major, through personalized attention to each student.
5. Revising AMST 300 as a GWAR course and developing course learning outcomes.
Recommendations

Based on the outcome of the program review, the American Studies Program is advised to take the following actions:

1. Develop a strategic plan for program governance and structural revision that enhances interdisciplinary interactions, in coordination with the Dean.
2. Increase visibility of American Studies through updating the website with a new mission statement, faculty and career information and other information to introduce students to American Studies.
3. Work with the Dean and with departments associated with AMST to develop fundraising/funding options to sustain initiatives such as a speaker series, and interactions with student interns and alumni.
4. Discuss with the Dean ways of supporting faculty dedicated to the program.
5. Initiate a system to collect and track data for job placements, alumni activities, student feedback, etc. and use this information to develop strategies for promoting the program.

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 Summit, University Provost
and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Lori Beth Way, Interim Dean of Undergraduate Education
and Academic Planning

Andrew Harris, Dean
College of Liberal and Creative Arts
Cristina Ruotolo, Director
School of Humanities and Liberal Studies

Megumi Fuse, Chair
Academic Program Review Committee

5/23/18
Date

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