

CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA

ACADEMIC SENATE

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

REPORT TO

THE ACADEMIC SENATE

AP-017-167

Equine Science Minor

Academic Programs Committee

Date: 11/22/2016

Executive Committee  
Received and Forwarded

Date: 06/07/2017

Academic Senate

Date: Summer 2017 Meeting  
First Reading

**BACKGROUND:** The Department of Animal and Veterinary Science has put forward a referral for a minor in Equine Studies for semesters. This is a new program.

The department provided the following justification for this new minor.

“The United States horse industry contributes significantly to the American economy. The horse industry contributes approximately \$39 billion in direct economic impacts to the United States economy on an annual basis. Considering indirect and induced spending, the horse industry annually generates approximately \$102 billion for the US economy. There are horses in every state in the US; California, Texas and Florida lead the way in both horse ownership and economic impact. Texas has nearly one million horses (978,822), and leads the nation with the most horses of any state and California comes in second with 698,345 horses and significantly more racetracks than Texas. For this reason, California leads all states in horse related job creation and economic impact. Equine studies minor students will be qualified to become involved in many diverse occupations. These include such varied activities as training horses, managerial support, sales of pharmaceuticals and livestock products, and other agribusiness professions.”

Of course, Cal Poly Pomona has a notable equine heritage, with its campus being the former home of W.K. Kellogg’s Arabian horse ranch. We have kept the herd of Arabian horses and are involved in breeding, training, and showing horses to this day. Cal Poly Pomona is the home of the W.K. Kellogg Arabian Horse Center. There are also multiple student clubs/organizations related to horses. There is a great interest in horses among people of college age and younger. Having a minor in Equine Studies will allow us to tap into that interest and contribute to the education of students from across the university who choose to pursue this minor.

**RESOURCES CONSULTED:**

Deans  
Associate Deans  
Department Chairs  
All Faculty

**DISCUSSION:**

Before reaching the Academic Programs Committee, this program was reviewed by the College Curriculum Committee in the College of Agriculture as well as the Dean of Agriculture and the Office of Academic Programs. All concerns raised at those levels were addressed. The Academic Programs Committee then conducted campus-wide consultation, as well as its own review of the program. No concerns were raised.

An issue was noted at the level of the Academic Programs Standing Subcommittee of the Academic Senate. There was some inconsistency in the supporting materials for this minor regarding its name. It was listed as ‘Equine Science’ on the referral sheet. At

various places in the applicable submission to Curriculog, it was referred to as both 'Equine Studies' and 'Equine Science'. The department chair of Animal and Veterinary Science (AVS) was contacted to see which name was intended: 'Equine Science' or 'Equine Science.' He solicited the AVS faculty involved in the creation of the minor, and they decided they wanted it to be called 'Equine Studies.' Subsequently, the inconsistencies on Curriculog were cleared up by the department.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Academic Programs Committee recommends approval of the new semester program minor in Equine Studies.