

CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA

ACADEMIC SENATE

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

REPORT TO

THE ACADEMIC SENATE

AP-009-190

Program Review – BS Food Science and Technology

Academic Programs Committee

Date: xx/xx/2020

Executive Committee
Received and Forwarded

Date: 03/11/2020

Academic Senate

Date: 03/25/2020
First Reading
04/15/2020
Second Reading

BACKGROUND:

As part of the university's five-year planning cycle for all programs, a self-study was prepared by the Department of Nutrition and Food Science, covering the academic years 2015/16 through 2018/19. An external review team, consisting of Dr. Olga I. Padilla from Cornell University and Dr. Sunill Mangalassary from CSU Los Angeles, visited the Nutrition and Food Science Department on April 24, 2019. After their visit, a report was prepared and submitted by the external reviewers, after which both the Department and Dean prepared responses. The AP Committee has reviewed these responses.

RESOURCES CONSULTED:

Dr. Harmit Singh, Chair of the Nutrition and Food Science Department
Dr. Peter Kilduff, Associate Dean of the College of Agriculture
Dr. Lisa Kessler, Dean of the College of Agriculture

DISCUSSION and RECOMMENDATION:

The external reviewers were outstandingly positive in their appraisal of the Department's faculty quality, as well as their commitment to teaching and research. They emphasized the Department's faculty and their enthusiasm about mentoring students but thought that some of the advising load should be shifted to non-academic advising to ease faculty load. The Dean's response was that College is in the process of hiring a professional advisor. The reviewers praised the Department's outreach activities as enrollment has been steadily increasing since 2014. They also commended the Department for the creation of a 5-year strategic plan.

The reviewers recommend the Department should continue its efforts to become the first accredited program by the Institute of Food Technologists in Southern California, pointing out that the curriculum, with some minor modifications, already aligns with this goal. They recommended upgrading the available Lab space as well as making current the existing lab equipment. The College Dean will guide the Department on the use of API unds for this purpose. The reviewers also recommended additional instructor help for lab delivery. The Dean indicated that this item would be included in the College's future budget requests.

The Department Chair and Dean's office were in general agreement with the reviewers' comments and suggestions. Overall, the review is positive, pointing to a Department with sound fundamentals and a real commitment to working with students. Most areas of concern are resource concerns shared by all programs on campus. The Academic Programs Committee commends the Department of Nutrition and Food Science on their work, both in the operation of their programs and in the preparation of a thorough and thoughtful review that highlights important issues.