ACTION PLAN FROM PROGRAM REVIEW AND PLANNING
San José State University
College of Social Sciences
Geography Program (BA, MA, and Minors)
Department of Geography and Global Studies
January 20, 2017

1. The Geography program has a long history of providing talented graduates to public agencies and the private sector in Silicon Valley and has great potential to be a leader in graduating students expert in geographic information sciences. However, the program in its current form is unsustainable. Interpersonal conflicts and insufficient permanent faculty are hindering the success of the program. In spring 2017:
   a. Take steps to build collegiality.
   b. Prepare a request for a faculty line to be hired during the 2017-18 academic year.
2. By July 1, 2017, in consultation with the College of Social Sciences leadership, develop a conceptual plan for moving toward a sustainable program structure, to be submitted to the Program Planning Committee.
3. By July 1, 2018, in consultation with the College leadership, develop a long-term strategic plan for a sustainable and thriving program. Submit the plan to the Program Planning Committee. The plan should address the following:
   a. Resolution of personnel issues.
   b. Description of a structure for the programs that allows the programs to be sustained, promotes growth in majors and faculty, and ensures administrative tasks are achieved.
   c. Identification of opportunities to collaborate with other programs on GIS, for example Civil Engineering or Urban Planning.
   d. Plans to increase the number of majors or minors to make the Geography program more sustainable.
      i. Complete the proposal for the advanced certificate in Geographic Information Sciences.
      ii. Develop a plan for advertising the BA Geography and the GIS minor to attract more students including more compelling information on the web site about job opportunities and success of alumni.
      iii. Explore ways to connect with local programs that are offering the AP Geography test.
      iv. Consider developing a Unitrack course that would award college credit to local high school students.
      v. Prepare a plan for working closely with local community colleges to develop a strong pipeline of transfer students.
vi. Update and revise (as appropriate) GIS/Geospatial technology courses and sequence to ensure students acquire skills currently in demand by employers in the Silicon Valley region.

4. By December 1, 2017, submit updated program learning outcomes (PLOs), a curriculum map, and assessment planning schedule for 2015-16 through 2019-20 for the MA program.

5. By December 1, 2017, submit explicit plans and criteria for assessing graduate PLOs.

6. If the requested plans are not submitted and demonstrable results are not evident by November 1, 2018, the Program Planning Committee will seriously consider recommendation of program closure at that time.

7. The next program planning cycle will be Fall 2020.

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