ACTION PLAN FROM PROGRAM REVIEW AND PLANNING
San José State University
College of Social Sciences
Mexican American Studies (MA and Minor)
Department of Mexican American Studies
February 7, 2017

1. The Program Planning Committee commends the department and supports the department’s efforts to develop BA Mexican American Studies. The MAS department is encouraged to explore potential synergies with other departments such as the History Department and the Sociology and Interdisciplinary Social Sciences Department that could help expand opportunities to include Chicana/o Studies electives in other undergraduate degrees as well as include sociology and history electives in the BA MAS.

2. The addition of the BA MAS to the department may impact resource needs, possibly including increased faculty. Work with the Dean of the College of Social Sciences to develop a multi-year plan for program growth that addresses faculty and administrative needs in relation to the number of FTES and majors.

3. Explore the viability of revitalizing the BA Liberal Studies, Concentration in Cross-Cultural Studies in Mexican and American Education and moving it from the Humanities Department to the Mexican American Studies Department.

4. Work with the Dean and Advancement to explore opportunities to generate external funds to support the innovative student success programs and curricular developments in the department.

5. By February 28, 2017 submit the General Education assessment documents for MAS 30 and MAS 74 as well as a calendar for GE assessment for the next five years.

6. Next program review will begin Fall 2020.

Marcos Pizarro

Marcos Pizarro, Chair, Department of Mexican American Studies

Walter R. Jacobs

Walt Jacobs, Dean, College of Social Sciences

Carl Kemnitz

Carl Kemnitz, Ph.D., Deputy Provost, Academic Affairs
17 February 2017

The Mexican American Studies Department appreciates the support received by the Program Planning Review Committee and the administration for the hard work we put into the Self-Study and the development of the MAS department during this past review period.

We are enthusiastic about the Action Plan proposed at the final meeting for our program review. We will definitely work on points 2, 3, and 4 during the next review, and I will be submitting the GE Assessment documents mentioned in point 5 by the deadline.

We did want to clarify the first point of the Action Plan. We have and will continue to work with other departments to explore the ways in which we can support each other and provide interdisciplinary opportunities for our students. From what I understand, the idea of working directly with Sociology and History came from another department’s Action Plan meeting, so we did not get the chance to discuss that specific idea. While we do support cross-departmental collaborations, one concern is that our proposed major has been designed for students who will seek it out as a double major. Since it is a tight and streamlined major, we will strive to maintain the integrity of the degree by keeping the most of the requirements in MAS. We will, however, support students who are looking to minor or major by encouraging them to consider these programs and others that are well-aligned with the MAS degree. We will also work with these departments to identify courses that may overlap significantly and work for students in multiple programs, so as to enhance enrollments across programs. We will be working with colleagues across the college to ensure the success of the new degree program and support students to find the best ways to achieve their academic goals at SJSU.

Thanks for the supportive and thoughtful approach to the program review process.

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