

Date: March 9, 2020
To: Cathy Sandeen,
From: John Stavby
Cc: John Pott,
Zeynep Kilic,
Karl Pfeiffer, Professor,
Clara Carroll, Professor,
Nelta Edwards, BA, BA
Susan Kalina, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs,
Claudia Lemppman, Vice Provost for Student Success
Re: Expedited Program Review: Sociology BA/BS

I have reviewed the Expedited Program Review Template for the Sociology BA/BS.

Recommendations

My recommendations are in accordance with the criteria and recommendations in the program and...
program is...
Students interested in this...
and for requirements in Political Science and International Studies. Additionally, UAS offers a Sociology concentration within...

Decision

Recommendation Decision

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cultures and bel HIV RI DOO SHRSOH DUH DFNQRZOHGJHG GLYHUVLW
undertook a Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan in 2017 in order to actualize these goals. Further, DAC
passed a motion on Jan 13th, 2020 recommending that the EPRV UHDIILUPV 8\$\$ V FR

For the last two years, we have been working on outreach to ASD and took part in all high school events. Although what happens in ASD curriculum is ~~not~~ of our control, we have been intentionally working on improving familiarity with our discipline among high schoolers. We have recently worked on ZLWK \$GYDQFHPHQW DQG VHFUXHG IXQGLQJ ZKLFK SURGXFHG contribution to communityuniversity relationships as part of our ongoing outreach efforts.

The Sociology Department is an outlier compared across the campus regarding addition to total faculty pay even when GER courses are taken out of the consideration. Contrary

Date: February 21, 2020
To: John Stalvey, Interim Provost
From: John Petraitis, Interim Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
Cc: Zeynep Kilic, Professor; Chair, Department of Sociology
Karl Pfeiffer, Professor
Chad Farrell, Professor
Nelta Edwards, Professor
Re: AY20 Expedited Program Review Findings

Program/s in this review: Sociology BABS
Specialized accrediting agency (if applicable): None
Campuses where the program is delivered: Anchorage
Members of the program review committee:

Zeynep Kilic, Professor and Department Chair
Karl Pfeiffer, Professor
Chad Farrell, Professor
Nelta Edwards, Professor

Centrality of Program Mission and Supporting Role

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creative expression. UAA is committed to serving the higher education needs of the state, its
communities and its diverse peoples. It is also committed to instruction at multiple academic levels,
success of all students regardless of their higher education goals, and service to the diverse peoples and
FRPPXQLWLHV RI WKH state and (1) Teaching and Learning, (2) Research, Scholarship

1. general education courses for undergraduates in CAS and other Colleges,
2. opportunities for undergraduates to pursue majors in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, and the arts, and
3. opportunities for faculty and students to pursue research and creative activities in academic disciplines,
4. graduate programs for advanced studies.

Given decreased enrollments across UAA and significant budget cuts to CAS, the challenge is to serve especially challenging for programs that rely on state financial appropriations through CAS because the programs have a gap between (a) the total costs of everything the program does and needs, and (b) the tuition CAS receives to cover those costs. This describes most programs in CAS: most rely on state appropriations and CAS has 30% less than it had two years ago.

Sociology contribute to general education credits in the social sciences, providing students the opportunity to major in the discipline, and for faculty and students to do research in that area.

Program Demand (including service to other programs), Efficiency, and Productivity

Since 2013 the program averaged 12.3 awards per year, but in three of the past four years the number of awards dropped that average. Additionally, the number of majors and student credit hours both dropped by 35% since 2013. To its credit, the Department became more efficient in this period, covering all of its instructional costs with tuition from students. However, when the full salaries and benefits for everything Sociology faculty do (namely, instruction, research, and service) are considered the Department has a deficit that required state appropriations to fill. Another challenge for the Department is that it draws the attention of comparatively few first-year students: since 2013 only 28 high school students selected Sociology as their initial major, averaging only 3.5 per year putting it 18th of CAS 19 baccalaureate programs in attracting first-year students.

Program Quality, Improvement and Student Studies

Deletion of the BA/BS major but retain a smaller set of faculty for continued contributions of general education courses and courses for Political Science and International Studies majors. This recommendation is particularly difficult because the faculty do so many things right. Exhibit A could be that 3-4 incoming students declare Sociology as their major but 102 graduate with degrees in Sociology. However, budget cuts are forcing CAS offer fewer programs to students in the future. Despite all that this program does well, deleting the Sociology BA/BS will likely have relatively modest impact on the number of students who come to UAA in the future. Unfortunately, fewer future students will discover this vibrant program and its strong faculty in the future, and fewer will switch their major to Sociology. Fortunately, keeping at least one Sociologist will ensure that future students have the opportunity to experience the value that his discipline has and experience a core of International Studies Program deletion requires approval by BOR and NWCCU.
