

# Academic Policy

Theme	Name	Dept.	BOLD Idea	Benefit to Fresno State
Academic Policy	Tyler Miller	University Courtyard/Housing	I'd like to see the efforts of the Counseling Masters Degree (Higher Ed Specialization) and the Higher Ed Administrator Degree combine into a Student Affairs in Higher Education Master's Degree. With the resources on our campus, this should be an easy thing. We could include housing (which could provide Resident Director grad assistantships) and the Rec administration department to create an amazing program!	Provides another degree without much extra effort or resources. It streamlines communication and combines recruitment efforts to bring young and new innovators to campus in the field of Higher Education and Student Affairs. It creates more of a team mentality on our campus.
	John McMillen	Kinesiology	Sport Administration, Sport Marketing, and Sport & Entertainment Facilities should all be housed under 1 Department within the School of Business. These 3 programs currently are housed in 3 separate departments (Kinesiology, Recreation, and Business).	It would be more cost effective to house all of these programs under 1 Department. Students would graduate on time since there wouldn't be any confusion as to what degree / option is best for them and its requirements. Alumni and employers would also know which program / department the students received their degree. A unified program would lead to more fundraising opportunities, better internships for students, and stronger employment opportunities for students.
	Faith Soares-Wilson	Mass Comm & Journ	Form a committee of faculty, students and administrators to design and implement a plan to win back accreditation. ACEJMC evaluates journalism programs according to nine standards. They include: mission, governance & administration; curriculum & instruction; diversity & inclusiveness issues; full-time & part-time faculty; scholarship: research, creative & professional activity; student services; resources, facilities & equipment; professional & public service; assessment of learning outcomes. Going through the process would encourage us to assess our program and adhere to high standards. I believe Fresno State and the MCJ department exceed most of these standards and, with recent and future hires, we should be able to achieve a satisfactory outcome. If we are deficient in any of the areas, it will give us an opportunity to improve those shortcomings.	Fresno State will benefit in several ways through the accreditation process--at the minimum by encouraging the university and MCJ department to improve programs that will better prepare students for mass communication careers. If Fresno State wins back accreditation, there are several additional benefits. 1) Funding - ACEJMC accreditation would provide an incentive for donors to support the MCJ program and would open up the possibility of receiving funding from the Hearst Foundation. 2) Diversity - The ACEJMC accreditation process judges diversity among students and faculty. It's not only an advantage to have a diverse university, but it's also important for faculty members to emphasize diversity in their curricula, which the MCJ faculty do. 3) Reputation enhancement and recruiting: ACEJMC accreditation is a fantastic recruiting tool for students and faculty both inside and outside the region, who would be more likely to seek out Fresno State for its accredited MCJ program. Accreditation adds credibility to the MCJ program and demonstrates to prospective students and faculty that we have met a high level of quality. We need to be competitive with other CSU schools that are accredited. 4) Setting standards: Accreditation requirements encourage the department to continue to maintain its high quality commitment to educating students and to embrace and adopt changing and emerging technology. The standards must be approved by both academicians and professionals. 5) Awards: ACEJMC accreditation opens up an entirely new category of award competitions and scholarships--including the coveted Hearst Journalism Awards, which are open only to students from ACEJMC accredited universities. Since Fresno State lost its accreditation, students have not been able to compete for these awards, which lead to future employment. Both student and institutional winners of the Hearst Awards receive monetary prizes. 6) Future student employment: Many news organizations give preference to students who are graduated from accredited programs.
	Shail Lopez-Ortiz	Wayfinders	Create a 4-year non degree-seeking track (no GPA requirements) focused on helping students with mild ID/DD realize educational, career and independent living goals. The purpose of the track would be to provide the opportunity for all ID/DD students to realize their intellectual and personal potential to become responsible and productive members of society. Students would apply to the Fresno State Admissions Office and routed to SSD or Wayfinders or Department for ID/DD students. Wayfinders at Fresno State is a Certified Transition Program (recognized by the federal government and its students can apply for FAFSA). All students enrolled in the programs mentioned above would have to apply and come through one entity. This alleviates the problem of a number of different organizations on Fresno State Campus and one body governing these students. SSD employees would need training on how to support instructors and students and step up support in universal design in curriculum, which not benefits students with ID/DD but also ESL learners etc. Registering state side also decreases fees to students and therefore more accessible to central valley students.	"Postsecondary education for students with DD/ID is a national movement. Fresno State would truly be fulfilling its mission statement by including this unique population and be the leader on the West Coast for an innovative program. Students with DD/ID attending Fresno State would present matriculating Fresno students opportunities such as: instructor, resident advisor, internship, practicum, licensure, independent study, field work, mentor, Best Buddy, and volunteer to gain important experiences and knowledge to work successfully with students with intellectual and developmental disabilities.