



Date: March 22, 2011

CALIFORNIA
STATE
UNIVERSITY,
FRESNO

MEMORANDUM

To: Walter Ullrich, Graduate Coordinator
Curriculum and Instruction

From: Marilyn Wilson, Chair *Marilyn Wilson*
University Graduate Committee

RE: Program Review: Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT)

MSC Recommend Conditional Approval of Program
University Graduate Committee

The University Graduate Committee reviewed the Program Review documents and considered their discussion with school members about the program. According to reports, the MAT program has been successful. It has been a popular program with a good completion rate. The MAT was a pioneer online program in the state of California. The Graduate Committee recognizes and commends the program coordinator, Walter Ullrich, for his hard work in developing and sustaining the program.

Concern was raised by the UGC and shared by all present (Dean, Associate Dean of Education, Department Chair, and Program coordinator) regarding the sustainability of the program. Basically this is a small program with one tenured person (Dr. Ullrich) and several adjunct faculty doing all the teaching. Short term there are plans for continuity in the instruction and Dr. Ullrich will continue to coordinate the program, but new faculty, either from the department or new hires, will be needed for leadership and teaching for the MAT program to be viable after the next couple years.

A second issue preventing the program from receiving a higher recommendation from the UGC was the lack of data presented in the self-study. The need for a revised Student Outcomes Assessment Plan (SOAP)

Member of the
Academic Senate

5241 N. Maple Ave. M/S TA43
Fresno, CA 93740-8027

559.278.2743
Fax 559.278.5745



was mentioned in the self-study and program response, but development and implementation seemed contingent on release time or extra funding. Those would be very helpful to all doing assessment, but the fact remains that a feasible and active SOAP is a requirement for on-going programs. We recommend immediate development of a new SOAP and data collection. Utilization of the IRAP website with the template and examples was suggested.

A minor issue that should be easier to correct is aligning the course syllabi with current template for online syllabi. As noted above, this was a pilot program in the field of online delivery and courses were developed prior to the university guidelines.

MW:vb

cc: Jacques Benninga, Department Chair
Karen Carey, Dean of Graduate Studies
Paul Beare, Dean, Kremen School of Education
James Marshall, Associate Dean, Kremen School of Education
William Covino, Provost