



1/16/2017

Dr. Dan Van Kley
Chair, Comprehensive Program Review Committee
Columbus State University
Columbus, GA 31907

Re: Comprehensive Review Program Self Study

Dear Dr. Van Kley,

The Comprehensive External Review Committee has met with Dr. Gordon to review and assess his study on the MPA/Political Science program. Overall, the program reflects merit and depth, but has some glaring needs. However, please see the attached recommendations that can enhance the program.

Michael Bailey
Chair, Department of Criminal Justice
Columbus State University

Ted Becker
Professor of Political Science and
Public Administration
Auburn University

Nicholas Bolden
Assistant Professor
Department of Politics, Philosophy and Public Administration

EXTERNAL TEAM REVIEW REPORT

2015-2016

1. Introduction – This External Review Team addresses the Comprehensive Program Review (CPR) by the Department of Politics, Philosophy and Public Administration. The format of the CPR is provided by the university's Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness at the university's website at <http://ir.columbusstate.edu/assess/CPRplan.php>

- II. The External Review Team consisted of Michael Bailey, Chair of the Criminal Justice Department at Columbus State University, Dr. Ted Becker, Professor of Political Science and Public Administration at Auburn University. Dr. Becker hold a PhD in political science from Northwestern University and a JD from Rutgers University. Dr. Nicholas Bolden is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Politics, Philosophy and Public Administration at Columbus State University.

Self Study: Satisfactory
Review Team: Concur

II. G The Quality of Facilities and Equipment

Self Study: Satisfactory
Review Team: Concur

Section Three – Indicators of Program Productivity

III. Summary Findings of Program's Overall Quality

Self Study- Below Average
Review Team: Concur (Becker: Biggest problem = Overworked faculty with too little time for research)

III A. Enrollment in Program for Past 5 Years

Self Study: Very Strong
Review Team: Concur

III B. Degrees Awarded Over the Past 5 Years

Self Study: Strong
Review Team: Concur

III C Comparison with CSU and USG Programs

Self Study- Satisfactory
Review Team – Concur

III D Program Retention Rate

Self Study – Satisfactory
Review Team – Concur

III E. Student Learning Indicators

Self Study: Strong
Review team : Concur

IV. F. Graduation Rate of Program

Findings of the External Review Committee

The Department of Politics, Philosophy and Public Administration is a vibrant force within the College of Letters and Science. However, the department underperformed and was structurally imbalanced for most of the recent comprehensive review study. The main challenge was the number of qualified faculty who could teach for the both the political science department and the Graduate program in public administration. The awards system and research publication achievements as well faculty with appropriate degrees warranted further development. Overall, both programs are central to the university's mission and this study is invaluable in helping recognize ways to move forward.

Section – Indicators of Program Quality

II. Summary Findings of Program's Overall Quality

Self Study –Satisfactory

Review Team: Concur. (Becker: Need more qualified, research oriented faculty)

II A. The Quality of Faculty

Self Study- Below average

Review Team: Concur

II C. The Quality of Research and Scholarship

Self Study: Below Average

Review Team: Concur

II D. Quality of Service

Self Study:Very Strong

Review Team: Concur (Becker: Overworked faculty will burn out)

II. E. The Quality of Faculty and Student Achievements

Self Study: Very Strong

Review Team: Concur

II F. The Quality of Curriculum

Self Study: Above Average
Review Team: Concur

III G Cost Effectiveness of Instructional Delivery

Self Study: Satisfactory
Review team: Concur

Section Four – Program Viability

IV. A. Summary Findings of Program's Overall Visibility
Self Study: Satisfactory
Review: Concur (Becker: barely)

