



HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

MEMORANDUM

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

DATE: March 9, 2009

TO: Robert A. Snyder, Interim Provost

FROM: Kenneth P. Ayoob, Interim Dean
College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

**SUBJECT: Recommendations for action regarding selected programs in
Program Prioritization Category 1 - Augment**

Category 1: Augmentation for Sociology to develop a Criminology Major

Prioritization Task Force (PTF) Recommendation:

1**: If the criminology major is approved, enhancement may be required. Potential future focus on criminology may not be consistent with HSU vision and thrust of current sociology program. There are additional concerns that a criminology program may pull resources from sociology and other social sciences.

Department Response:

Sociology did not submit a response to the Prioritization Task Force, but did make a case for establishing a major in Criminology under area V (Potential) in their Prioritization Report. They cited the possibility for explosive growth in Criminology and expect an overlap in core courses with the Sociology major but state that they could not offer a Criminology major without an augmentation of faculty and staff.

Dean's Recommendation:

Having reviewed a draft of the pre-proposal for a Criminology Major and discussed the type of program that is envisioned with members of the faculty, I am confident that the major would be consistent with the mission of both HSU and the department of

Sociology. This has the potential for establishing a unique and popular type of Criminology Major at HSU that will emphasize a commitment to social justice. The comment from the Prioritization Task Force regarding a concern about the program's vision and mission, are unfounded. Based upon enrollments at other CSU campuses, I believe that Criminology would grow into a large and cost effective program. Another concern of the PTF is the possibility of taking resources from other Social Science programs. I can understand this as a perception, but I have not seen any evidence that this is the case. A Criminology Major might attract students from other social sciences, but based upon the experience at CSU San Marcos (the program grew from 47 in year one to over 300 in year 4) I believe the Criminology Major would attract new students to campus. I recommend that the Department of Sociology be augmented by one position for AY 10-11 for Criminology and that within two years after that, another position in Sociology/Criminology be allocated assuming growth projections justify a second position. **This is my first priority.**

Augmentation for Geography:

Prioritization Task Force (PTF) Recommendation:

Geography :

Investment in this program could yield significant returns. Given retirements, new hire needed. Encourage department to follow through on elimination of Pacific Studies minor.

Department Response:

The department strongly agrees that a new position would be beneficial to the growth and enhancement of the program. This is particularly timely with the upcoming end of Professor Tom Jones' FERP in spring 2010.

Dean Recommendation:

Geography is currently searching for a tenure track faculty position in Physical Geography. In their Prioritization Report they suggest making their lab manager full time, another tenure track hire, hiring graduate students to help in grading and teaching lab courses and establishing an interdisciplinary hire with another department which could focus on International Studies or Environmental Studies if and when that major moves forward. The completion of Professor Jones' FERP in spring of 2010 warrants consideration for a tenure track position through the regular position request process established for tenure track hires. I recommend that Geography be allowed to partner with another department in the Augment Category – Politics – to establish a joint appointment serving Environmental and International Studies through the augmentation

process. The department has agreed to eliminate the Pacific Studies minor. **This is my second priority.**

Augmentation for Politics:

PTF Recommendation:

1*: Good potential for growth with modest investment.

Department Response:

The department did not submit a response to the PTF. In their Prioritization Report they mention several alternatives including a tenure track hire, an interdisciplinary tenure track hire and augmentation of staffing to offer more GE and/or a wider range of major and interdisciplinary classes.

Dean Recommendation:

Politics has strong potential for growth and a number of faculty completing FERPS in the near future. This warrants full consideration for a tenure track position through the regular position process for tenure track hires. I recommend that Politics be allowed to partner with another department in the Augment Category – Geography – to establish a joint appointment serving Environmental and International Studies through the augmentation process. **This is my second priority.**

Other recommendations:

I recommend that Politics be augmented by 3-4 WTU per semester in order have flexibility that allows tenure track faculty to teach more diverse major or interdisciplinary offerings. **This is my third priority.**

I recommend that Geography be augmented by up to \$10,000 in one time money for the purchase of GPS units and technical software. **This is my fourth priority.**