



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMS
GRADUATE STUDIES

Memorandum of Understanding Construction Engineering Management BS

Department of Civil Engineering
College of Engineering
May 2021 (for March 2019 Review)

This Memorandum of Understanding outlines the consensus reached by the Department of Civil Engineering, the College of Engineering, and the Division of Academic Affairs, based on the program review (Self-study 2017; external review Spring 2017; UPRC report March 20, 2019). It describes the goals to be achieved, and the actions to be undertaken by all parties to this MOU to achieve these goals, during the next program review cycle. Progress toward goals is to be addressed in an annual report.

The Department of Civil Engineering and Construction Management offers a BS in Construction Management. It was accredited by the American Council for Construction Education (ACCE) in July 2017, with the next re-accreditation scheduled for July 2023 with a self-study due December 1, 2022. The Construction Management self-study identified several specific priorities and goals including: the continued integration of new technologies into the CEM curriculum; the continued assessment of student learning to enhance the program; the encouragement to faculty to participate in regional, national, and international events, conferences, and publications; the encouragement of industry partnerships that will aid the program in maintaining up-to-date approaches and technologies; and the exploration of opportunities for faculty and students to participate in global activities.

Review of the progress reports, self-study, accreditation report, and UPRC report show that the department has made significant strides in the areas of outcomes assessment and mission alignment.

A number of strengths were identified in the reports:

- The department was commended for its curriculum revision which added courses reflecting the changing nature of the field.
- The visiting team commended the department for its Continuous Quality Improvement Plan and subsequent assessments.
- The visiting team highlighted student involvement, particularly the “CEM Connect” group as a key strength of the program.
- The visiting team highlighted the program’s Advisory Development Council for its commitment to continuous improvement in relation to changing industry needs.

Areas of concern and opportunities for development were also noted in the reports:

- The site visitors noted fertile opportunities for increased faculty-student collaboration;
- Average time-to-degree and average units earned still remain high.
- The visiting team noted that available courses do not correspond to the program’s articulated four-year plan, and some pre-requisite courses for the capstone course are offered against each other, prohibiting students from enrolling in more than one course during the term.*
- The visiting team noted a concern with lecturer evaluation, particularly the use of SPOT forms.*

The items noted with an asterisk (*) have been addressed and the ACCE review board noted these concerns / weaknesses as alleviated.

It is therefore agreed that:

1. The Program will continue its ongoing program of assessment of institutional, programmatic, and student learning outcomes across the curriculum.
2. Within the bounds of what is needed to maintain ACCE accreditation, work to lower the major-specific unit count required for graduation and improve time-to-degree.
3. While continuing existing contacts with the Advisory Development Council (ADC), consider ways to strengthen the relationship between ADC members and CM faculty and students.
4. Consider pursuing opportunities for faculty-student research collaboration and documentation of said pursuits in subsequent self-studies.
5. The Program will provide an annual update (due June 1) on progress made towards the actions agreed to in this MOU to the COE Dean, the Vice Provost for Academic Programs, and the Director of Program Review and Assessment. The review cycle will match the 6-year accreditation cycle from 2017-2023. A comprehensive self-study will be due December 1, 2022 for 2023-2024 Academic Year external review/UPRC report process.

This MOU has been read and approved by:

Civil Engineering Chair: _____
Lisa Star

Date: _____

College of Engineering Interim Dean: _____
Tracy Maples

Date: _____

Vice Provost Academic Programs: _____
Jody Cormack

Date: _____