



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMS GRADUATE STUDIES

Memorandum of Understanding

This Memorandum of Understanding outlines the consensus reached by the Bob Cole Conservatory of Music, the College of the Arts, and the Division of Academic Affairs, based on the program review (Self-study 2008-2016; external review March 2017; UPRC report November 2, 2017). 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 Bob Cole Conservatory of Music (BCCM) offers BA, BM, MA, and MM degrees. It was accredited by the National Association of Music (NASM) in 2016, with the next re-accreditation scheduled for 2023-2024. The BCCM self-study identified several specific priorities and goals (all driven by the Mission Vision and Values and Strategic Priorities and Goals documents), including: 1) Maintenance of State-Paid Lessons (BCCM has not had to cut lessons within the period of review, but have had to enforce unit maximums); 2) Offering the courses needed to graduate in a timely manner, and evaluating student assessments of teaching and faculty assessments of students is a fundamental step in course planning; and, 3) "Smart Rooms" and Lab Computer Upgrades and Faculty and Staff Computer Upgrades were also identified in the self-study as priorities.

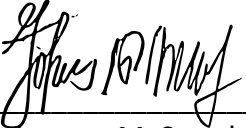
The 2012 MOU also indicated a number of priorities. In terms of curriculum, there was a need to reduce the number of units in the BA and BM majors (per the Highly Valued Degree Initiative begun in Jan 2010). The Conservatory has revised the curriculum and reduced units in the undergraduate major to 70 units (as of Dec 2013), just 53% of the previous total units in the BM. Additionally, the 2012 MOU specified that the Conservatory work to use assessment findings to make programmatic or pedagogical improvements to achieve better student learning, and to address low enrollment in the MA program. Finally, the 2012 MOU also recommended support for the Department in its search for funding for future positions (e.g., faculty in Collaborative Keyboard and Choral/Music Education, accompanists). The NASM concurred (in 2015) that the Conservatory develop a hiring plan with timetable to address the low density of tenure track faculty in the program.


Review of the self-study, accreditation report, and UPRC report show that the Conservatory is committed to education of its students, both major and non-majors, undergraduate and graduate. The Conservatory has many strengths, and few needed areas for improvement. They have followed through with recommendations from the previous MOU, and they are already working on closing the loop with improvement related to their 2016 self-study.

It is therefore agreed that:

1. The Conservatory will revise and update program level outcomes to be active and measurable; and will implement a program of assessment of those outcomes across the curriculum, including General Education offerings.
2. The Conservatory will continue to use Graduate Program assessment findings to address low enrollments in the MA.
3. The College will work with the Conservatory and ATS to create a plan for increasing the number of "Smart Rooms" and plan for upgrades of Lab Computer and Faculty/Staff Computers.
4. The BCCM self-study and NASM Visitor's Report both indicate a need to hire more tenure track faculty; however, the areas of need and number of faculty are not clearly identified. It is recommended that the Conservatory coordinate with the College to develop a hiring plan with timetable to address the low density of tenure track faculty in the program.
5. The Conservatory will provide an Annual Assessment (due June 1) including the results form at least 1 PLO per Year and also progress made towards the actions agreed to in this MOU to the COTA Dean, the Vice Provost for Academic Programs, and the Director of Program Review and Assessment. The last self-study and accreditation visit were in 2016-17. Driven by the next accreditation visit in 2024, the next self-study will be due in 2023.

This MOU has been read and approved by:

Conservatory Director:  Date: Aug 9, 2021
Johannes M. Stosch

Interim Dean, College of the Arts:  Date: March 1, 2022
Anne D'Zmura

Vice Provost Academic Programs:  Date: 3/2/2022
Jody Cormack