

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH
VICE PROVOST FOR ACADEMIC PROGRAMS



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH
VICE PROVOST FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Masters of Gerontology
Department of Family and Consumer Sciences
College of Health and Human Services
February 2023 (for 2022 review)

This Memorandum of Understanding outlines the consensus reached by the Masters of Gerontology program, the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, the College of Health and Human Services, and the Division of Academic Affairs, based on the program review (Self-study August 2022; External Review visit in October 2022; and UPRC report February 2023). 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 Gerontology program offers a 36-unit interdisciplinary Master of Science in Gerontology. In addition, the program also offers a post-baccalaureate Gerontology Certificate and an upper-division undergraduate Gerontology Certificate and a minor program which are not a part of this review. The Gerontology MS program was last reviewed in 2017 wherein the MOU recommended the following: developing a multi-year assessment plan; developing a plan for instructional need and hiring; and, refining and expanding advising for students. In addition, the MOU set benchmarks for the program to achieve 75% retention rates, 75% 4-year graduation rates, and annual admission rate of 20-25 students. The program has made progress on support for student advising and developing a hiring plan, but still has not developed and implemented a direct assessment plan. In addition, the benchmarks set for the program are not yet met.

A number of strengths were identified in the program review reports, including:

The program is seeking accreditation through the Accreditation for Gerontology Education Council (AGEC).

Faculty advising and mentoring for students; commitment to actively engage students in the professional community through their research presentations and posters.

Curriculum: 23 graduate (500/600-level) courses offered in the curriculum.

Faculty commitment to DEI, and efforts to have CSULB designated as an Age Friendly University (AFU).

Areas of concern and opportunities for development included:

The mission statement could be revised to better capture the richness offered by the program.

The program Director is highly regarded as a leader, but the external reviewer suggests that she may need additional release time for administrative tasks and mentoring.

3. Support the gerontology program to develop strategies to increase equity in faculty hiring and promotion.