



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH
VICE PROVOST FOR ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Memorandum of Understanding

This MOU has been read and approved by:

Department Chair: *Lisa M. Star*
Lisa M. Star

Date: 6/24/2021

Interim Dean, College of Engineering: *Tracy Maples*
Tracy Maples

Date: 6/25/2021

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Date: 6/28/2021



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMS
GRADUATE STUDIES

**Memorandum of Understanding
Civil Engineering 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 Civil Engineering. It was accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC) of the Accreditation Board for Engineering & Technology (ABET) in in Spring 2019, with the next re-accreditation scheduled for Fall 2024 with a self-study due July 1, 2024. The self-study highlighted resources available to students, including the Office of Professional Development & Internships, that contribute to student success initiatives. Also highlighted were College of Engineering First-year Experiences courses, providing students high-impact practices as freshmen. The program also noted that laboratories had been updated and that new courses were added that also met upper-division General Education (GE) requirements.

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 more active and authentic learning components.
- The visiting team commended the department for its assessment infrastructure and subsequent assessments.
- The department has ensured appropriate and sufficient faculty, staff, and resources to meet increased demand for the major. The visiting team in particular praised the practical experience of the many adjunct faculty in the department.
- The department's FTEs have seen consistent and steady growth since the last accreditation.

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

- While the visiting team commended the department's assessment infrastructure, it was concerned about sustainability and asked the department to review process to avoid redundancies.
- The four-year graduation rate for First-Time Freshmen and the two-year graduation rate for transfer students is quite low in relation to the institution and in accordance with the GI 2025 initiative.

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. It will revise its assessment plan in consultation with the Coordinator for Program Review & Assessment to create a more sustainable framework while remaining compliant with ABET standards.
2. The program will analyze the graduation rates and time to degree for first-time freshmen and transfers, address barriers found to timely graduation, and work to improve time-to-degree.
3. 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 2019-2025. A comprehensive self-study will be due July 1, 2024 for the 2024-2025 Academic Year external review/UPRC report process.