The 15-Year ORU review of the John Muir Institute for the Environment (JMIE) is provided for official Academic Senate review.
The L&S Executive Committee discussed the review but had no formal comment. --Phil Shaver, Chair
Response continued on next page.
RFC: John Muir Institute ORU 15-Year Review

The Graduate Council accepted the recommendations of the Academic Planning and Development (APD) Committee at its February 7, 2014 meeting in consideration of the above-mentioned Academic Senate Request for Consultation (AS RFC).

The Graduate Council accepted the recommendations, as follows, from the APD Committee:

APD concurs with the external review regarding the various, demonstrated successes of the JMIE, including its contributions to graduate student training and career development. APD concurs that support for the JMIE should be continued. Among the more specific recommendations of the external review, APD discussed the recommendation that JMIE receive resources for a professional degree program to be offered through an appropriate graduate group. In particular, APD considered support for a graduate professional degree program in Environmental Policy and Management as a targeted additional investment in JMIE.

The Graduate Council submits the APD committee’s comments, as accepted by consensus, at our meeting as the Council’s response to the above-mentioned RFC.

Sincerely,

Rachael E. Goodhue, Chair
Graduate Council

/vm

C: Gina Anderson, Academic Senate Executive Director
Planning & Budget

April 18, 2014 2:12 PM

CPB has completed its review of the JMIE. The review was delayed because CPB requested that Prof. Schwartz come in person to talk about JMIE as well as provide additional information about JMIE.

CPB strongly supports the continuation of JMIE. At this point JMIE is not well served by the ORU organizational framework. CPB strongly recommends that JMIE take on a much larger role on campus and vastly expand its portfolio. It serves as an important anchoring point for environmental research on campus. As part of expanding the vision and scope of JMIE, CPB recommends considering bringing all of the environmentally focused ORUs under JMIE. It is perplexing that air quality and renewable energy reside outside of an ORU that currently houses tremendous strengths in potable water, ecology, limited user water provision technologies, lake water, just to mention a few.

In summary, CPB strongly recommends JMIE be renewed and encourages all parties involved to think more broadly and more visionary about its role on campus.
Research

February 5, 2014 1:52 PM

COR discussed the 15-year ORU review for the John Muir Institute of the Environment (JMIE). The committee agrees that JMIE is clearly productive in research including publications and obtaining extramural funding. In addition, JMIE is very engaged in graduate student education and serves the interests of many students on campus. Overall, COR recommends continued support for JMIE as an ORU.