

Department of Viticulture and Enology

2019-20 Annual Report

1. Professional Accomplishments

A. **Summary** of accomplishments addressing departmental goals set last year.

2019-2020 Goals and objectives:

As stated in the 2018-2019 annual report of the Department of Viticulture and Enology, the following were the goals and objective.

- a. Complete and submit undergraduate and graduate curriculum revision to the College AP& P Committee
- b. Prepare material for the self-study and program review for the department
- c. Increase student enrolment efforts
- d. Start teaching new courses initially as Topics courses till revised curriculum is accepted.
- e. Recruit graduate students into the re-instated MS program.

For each of the above, the progress/accomplishments were as follows:

- a. We continued to work on the undergraduate and graduate revision process during this academic year. We were unable to meet our target of submitting the proposed new curriculum to the College AP&P Committee. This is partly due to: i) not having enough time as all faculty are fully loaded with their teaching requirements, ii) the task in hand is not very easy as the department has been reliant on other departments since the inception of the program. For required courses in both viticulture and enology majors and any proposed changes were often times met with issues and challenges of how best to tailor our curriculum with the desired changes without our faculty having to teach courses outside our area of expertise or requiring the need for more faculty. This resulted in having to make several unanticipated changes. The major issue was how to deal with the situation of viticulture students not being able to enroll in required classes taught in other departments. For example, the soil science class taught in Plant Science without having our own soil scientist. These sorts of issues are further discussed in the challenges for the department. However, we have made substantial progress on the task. Progress was also made in identifying some of the issues with the current curriculum, rectifying measures were taken, and changes were accepted by the College AP&P Committee and action at the university level is being awaited. This change was regarding students not being able to repeat topics classes in the viticulture major. A change was proposed to allow students repeat topics class 4 times up to 12 units. This will help in students take classes that are being designed in-house to replace the impacted required classes in other departments. The problem of impacted courses in other departments were comparatively less of an issue in the enology major, and iii) the switch to virtual instruction and issues of effective delivery of classes diverted the attention of the faculty from the curriculum.
- b. Substantial progress was being/has been made to get all documents prepared for the

self-study and undergraduate program review. The document is almost ready pending preparation of hard copies and scanning of material. However, the effort was put on hold due to the uncertainties of whether the program review was going to happen as scheduled this year or not (due to Covid-19).

- c. The department hosted a number of students from various high schools on campus, met with faculty from various high schools and community colleges at the preview day and other events. Personal emails were exchanged with community college faculty introducing/re-introducing them to the department. Faculty also reviewed files of students who had not met the GPA requirements for admission and selected several students who were very close to the GPA requirement and showed potential. Since the department did not have a GPA requirement of their own, university admissions were going by the overall standards for student acceptance. The faculty adopted a GPA requirement of 2.9 for service area students and 3.0 for out of service area students to be at par with other JCAST departments like Plant Science.
- d. Four new topics class were developed, introduced, and taught. These included:
VIT 162T (Vineyard ecology and organic production) – Fall 2019 – Dr. Shrestha
VIT 162T (Management of Grape Diseases, Disorders and Pests) – Spring 2020 – Dr. Van Zyl
VIT 162T (Introduction to Viticulture) – Spring 2020 – taught by Dr. Gu
ENOL 162T (Vine, Grape and Yeast Biochemistry) – Spring 2020 – Dr. Pedroza
- e. The graduate program is now fully operational with 9 students (6 students enrolled in Fall 2019 and 3 in Spring 2020). The faculty have also re-started delivery of graduate courses

Goals for 2020-2021.

- a. Complete and submit undergraduate and graduate curriculum revision to the College AP& P Committee
- b. Prepare material for the self-study and program review for the department
- c. Continue to increase student enrolment efforts
- d. Start teaching remaining proposed new courses initially as Topics courses till revised curriculum is accepted.
- e. Continue recruiting graduate students and start offering the required graduate classes.
- f. Search and hire department chair position, if the search is approved.

Executive summary highlighting the top three challenges and opportunities you tackled this academic year.

1. The greatest challenge for the department is the new set of restrictions placed by other departments giving priority to their own majors and allowing viticulture and enology majors only to enroll after all their students have enrolled, this is supposedly because of impaction. It is understood that each department must give priority to their own students for timely graduation. The major issue at the moment is with the required viticulture courses being offered by Plant Science Department. This issue was solved by personal consultations with the Plant Science department and help from the JCAST Dean's office. Several students were able to get into the required classes. However, many had to substitute classes and/or take certain required classes as independent study. This ad-hoc, one on one requests between department chairs, goodwill between chairs, and intervention from the JCAST Dean's office cannot continue on each semester basis, if the Department of Viticulture and Enology is to be self-sustainable. We have mitigated this issue to some extent by offering some required courses as topics class that will eventually become regular classes once the new curriculum is offered. The university and the college should visit this new trend of departments blocking students from other departments who require these classes and develop a policy and program to mitigate this issue.
2. The next challenge is decline in student numbers. This was mostly due to lack of faculty in the past few years. Rehiring of new faculty has helped in gradually building up the student numbers and the re-initiation of the graduate program has also helped. Also, offering of topics courses has increase student confidence and interest in the program. However, the sustainability in student numbers again ties with the first challenge above. Several students have been frustrated with the inability to get into the required classes in other departments and have elected to change majors to alleviate this issue and graduate in time. Again, the increase in viticulture and enology (primarily viticulture) undergraduate students is not sustainable, if the trend of other departments blocking student registrations continue.
3. The lack of clear-cut responsibilities, scope of work, assets and space allocations when the Department of Viticulture and Enology and the Viticulture and Enology Research Center was divided into two separate units under two different leadership personnel created a lot of confusion, misunderstandings, and frustration between the staff and faculty of the two units. As a result, a third-party independent consultant was hired by JCAST to help solve the issues. Based on the report of the consultant, the Dean took some commendable steps to help alleviate this problem. The model of a Department being housed inside a research center is not sustainable. Steps were taken to mitigate this which hopefully will provide a better organizational structure and streamline the two units making both more productive and successful.

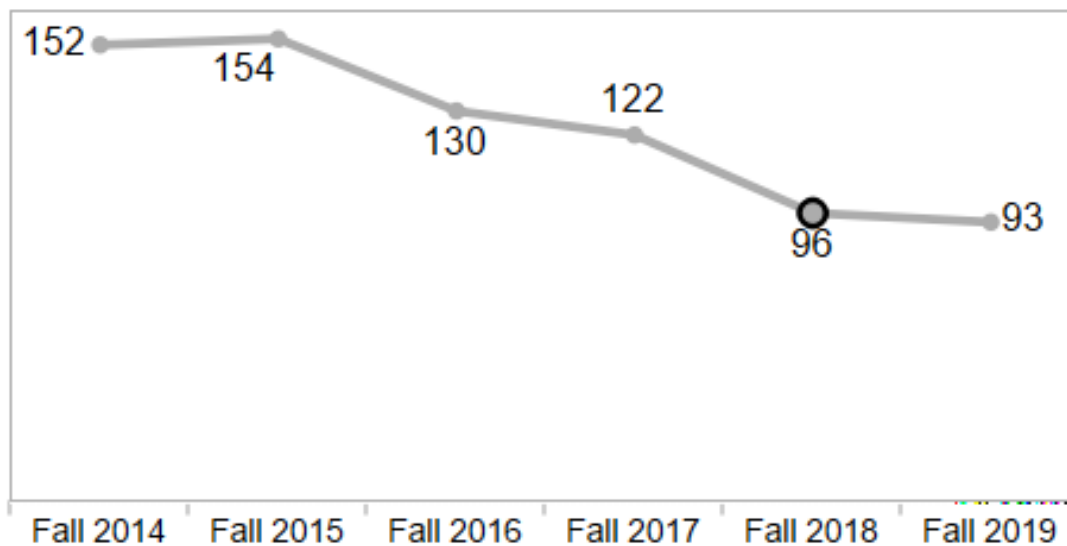
2. Unit Accomplishments

a. Student Success: Graduation Rates, Retention Rates, Closing the Loop

As mentioned above and in the 2018/2019 annual report, total student enrollment in the Department of Viticulture and Enology has shown a steady decline (Figure 1) from Fall 2014 to Fall 2019, due in part to perceived lack of course availability etc., following faculty retirements and resignations as outlined above. The total number of registered undergraduate students in the department for academic year 2018/19 stood at 93 (Figure 1). There are 9 graduate students in the department that is not shown in this chart so, including them, the total number of students in Spring 2020 stands at 102. Thus, the challenge going forward remains in increasing student numbers and this may only be possible if the issues of not being able to register in classes in other departments is resolved. Limited number of faculty, highly specialized in their area of expertise, also makes it a challenge while planning for growth. The department perceives that growth in student numbers should be sustainable and we should not reach a situation of having to increase number of labs or sections of courses.

Figure 1. Enrollment trend of undergraduate students in the Department of Viticulture and Enology from Fall 2014 to Fall 2019 (*Data source: Office of Institutional Effectiveness*).

Headcount or FTES Count of Students



The Table below (Figure 2) shows that in the past five years, we have lost 52 students to other departments of JCAST (Agricultural Business, Plant Science, Animal Science & Ag Education, and Food Science & Nutrition). Much of which is probably because of the reasons discussed earlier.

Figure 2. Number of undergraduate students of the Department of Viticulture and Enology transferring to other departments from Fall 2014 to Fall 2018 (*Data source: Office of Institutional Effectiveness*).

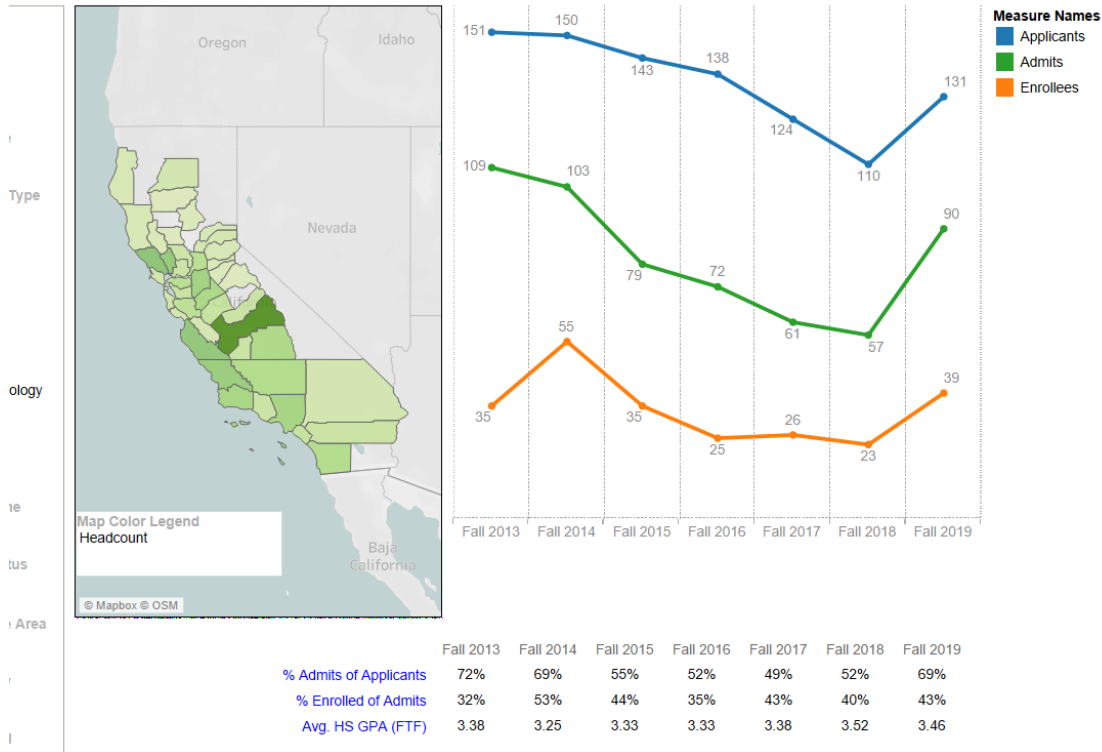
3.2 Top departments to which students changed their initial majors in Viticulture & Enology

	Fall 2014	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Fall 2018	Grand Total
Agricultural Business	13	4	3	4	3	27
Plant Science	4	4	3	3	6	20
Business	1	1	2	2	1	7
Marketing & Logistics	1	2		2	2	7
Special Programs	1	1	2	1		5
Mass Comm & Journalism	1	1	1	1		4
Philosophy				2	2	4
Accountancy			1	1	1	3
Animal Sciences & Ag Education	1		1	1		3
Construction Management		1	1	1		3
Kinesiology		1	1		1	3
Recreation Administration	1	1		1		3
Chemistry					2	2
Communication				1	1	2
English			1	1		2
Food Science & Nutrition	1	1				2
Nursing		1			1	2
Biology			1			1
Criminology		1				1
Management		1				1
Mechanical Engineering	1					1
Psychology					1	1
Social Work Education			1			1
Grand Total	25	20	18	21	21	105

However, the encouraging information is that the number of applicants to the undergraduate Viticulture and Enology program has reversed its trend and, since 2018, has shown an increase in the number of applicants, number of admits, and number of enrollees (Figure 3). Also encouraging is that this trend was not at the cost of lower GPAs of incoming students as the Figure shows that average high school GPA in Fall 2019 was 3.46. The department is unique in the sense that many students interested in viticulture and enology come from outside our service areas. It is natural that students from coastal areas with vineyards and wineries may have a greater interest in our program than our own service area. It is hoped that the students from outside our service areas are able to be admitted in our department. There is unsubstantiated hearsay that some out of service area students are no longer applying to our program because of higher admission requirement criteria. To mitigate this, faculty and staff have been personally responding to queries from such students and guiding them in every possible way to help them get admitted. However, there should be a more official approach as well from the university.

Figure 3. Trend of applications for admission in the undergraduate programs of the Department of Viticulture and Enology from Fall 2013 to Fall 2019 (Data source: Office of Institutional Effectiveness).

Applicants and New Students



Graduation rates:

The current four-year freshman graduation rate is at 11.8% compared to 8.3% in the previous year (Table 1), which is well below the campus 4-year target of 22% (Table 2). The 6-year graduation rate for freshman is at 72.7%, which is a substantial increase from last year's rate of 22.2%, and also above the university goal of 54% (Table 1 & 2). To remedy the low 4-year graduation rate the department is currently revising the viticulture curriculum to include more available course options. As currently designed only **22** of the **120** required units in the B.Sc. in Viticulture are taught in the department. This leads to significant issues with students finding available seats in classes controlled by other departments, and in many cases reserved for "majors only" in the first 1-2 weeks of registration. Again, this was discussed earlier.

Table 1. Freshman Undergraduate Cohort Retention, Graduation and Persistence for the Department of Viticulture and Enology (*Data source: Office of Institutional Effectiveness*).

Undergraduate Cohort Retention, Graduation, Persistence																
First-time Full-time Freshmen Cohorts																
Entry Cohort	Cohort Size	Avg Entry GPA*	Avg. 1st Term GPA	Retention after 1st Term	Retention after 1 Year	Degree within 2 Years	Contin. after 2 Years	Degree within 3 Years	Contin. after 3 Years	Degree within 4 Years	Contin. after 4 Years	Degree within 5 Years	Contin. after 5 Years	Degree within 6 Years	Contin. after 6 Years	
Fall 2007	7	2.94	1.99	71.4%	71.4%	0.0%	42.9%	0.0%	42.9%	14.3%	14.3%	14.3%	28.6%	28.6%	14.3%	
Fall 2008	12	3.10	2.26	91.7%	83.3%	0.0%	66.7%	0.0%	66.7%	0.0%	41.7%	8.3%	41.7%	25.0%	16.7%	
Fall 2009	12	3.11	2.65	100.0%	91.7%	0.0%	83.3%	0.0%	83.3%	16.7%	66.7%	41.7%	33.3%	66.7%	8.3%	
Fall 2010	14	3.13	2.29	100.0%	85.7%	0.0%	78.6%	0.0%	71.4%	21.4%	42.9%	28.6%	35.7%	50.0%	7.1%	
Fall 2011	12	3.27	3.07	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%	91.7%	0.0%	83.3%	33.3%	58.3%	75.0%	0.0%	75.0%	0.0%	
Fall 2012	9	3.25	2.57	100.0%	77.8%	0.0%	77.8%	0.0%	66.7%	0.0%	66.7%	11.1%	44.4%	22.2%	22.2%	
Fall 2013	11	3.13	2.85	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%	9.1%	90.9%	45.5%	45.5%	72.7%	9.1%	
Fall 2014	24	3.25	2.81	91.7%	83.3%	0.0%	75.0%	0.0%	70.8%	8.3%	62.5%	33.3%	29.2%			
Fall 2015	17	3.25	2.93	88.2%	82.4%	0.0%	70.6%	0.0%	64.7%	11.8%	52.9%					
Fall 2016	9	3.53	2.00	88.9%	88.9%	0.0%	66.7%	0.0%	55.6%							
Fall 2017	15	3.35	2.71	93.3%	73.3%	0.0%	66.7%									
Fall 2018	8	3.51	2.67	100.0%	87.5%											
Fall 2019	18	3.43	2.86	94.4%												
Grand Total	168	3.26	2.65	94.0%	85.3%	0.0%	75.4%	0.0%	71.7%	12.7%	56.8%	33.7%	31.7%	50.6%	10.4%	

Note: Cohort includes all first-time, full-time freshmen. Entry GPA reflects high school GPA.

Table 2. California State University, Fresno 2025 Graduation Goals (*Data source: <http://www.fresnostate.edu/academics/studentssuccess/documents/Fresno-State-Goals.pdf>*)

FRESHMEN GRADUATION GOALS				
	Baseline Rate	Peer Group Benchmark	Additional Improvement	2025 Goal
6-Year Graduation Rate Goal (2019 Cohort)	48%	54%	6%	54%
4-Year Graduation Rate Goal (2021 Cohort)	14%	N/A	8%	22%
TRANSFER GRADUATION RATE GOALS				
4-Year Graduation Rate Goal (2021 Cohort)	68%	N/A	6%	74%
2-Year Graduation Rate Goal (2023 Cohort)	17%	N/A	8%	25%
FRESHMAN ACHIEVEMENT GAP GOALS				
6-Year URM/Non-URM Graduation Rate Gap Goal (2019 Cohort)	10%	N/A	50% Improvement	5%
4-Year Pell/Non-Pell Graduation Rate Gap Goal (2019 Cohort)	13%	N/A	50% Improvement	6%

The two-year transfer graduation rates is only 9.1%, which is well below the campus target of 25%, and the four-year transfer graduation rates are at 73.3% (Table 3), which is close to the campus target of 74% (Table 2) but a significant drop from last year’s rate of 94.7% (Table 3). These latter data may provide some insight on 4-year course sequencing and prerequisite course selection as the department revises the existing curriculum. These data also suggest the department’s consideration of creating a core suite of courses that all VE students must complete prior to selection of either the 1) viticulture or 2) enology option may prove valuable.

Table 3. Transfer Undergraduate Cohort Retention, Graduation and Persistence for the Department of Viticulture and Enology (*Data source: Office of Institutional Effectiveness*)

Undergraduate Cohort Retention, Graduation, Persistence																
First Time CCC Transfer Cohorts																
Cohort Term	Entry Cohort	Cohort Size	Avg Entry GPA*	Avg. 1st Term GPA	Retention after 1st Term	Retention after 1 Year	Degree within 2 Years	Contin. after 2 Years	Degree within 3 Years	Contin. after 3 Years	Degree within 4 Years	Contin. after 4 Years	Degree within 5 Years	Contin. after 5 Years	Degree within 6 Years	Contin. after 6 Years
Fall	Fall 2007	7	2.71	2.89	100.0%	85.7%	0.0%	100.0%	57.1%	14.3%	71.4%	0.0%	85.7%	0.0%	85.7%	0.0%
	Fall 2008	10	2.76	2.76	100.0%	90.0%	0.0%	90.0%	50.0%	10.0%	60.0%	10.0%	70.0%	0.0%	70.0%	0.0%
Enrollment Type First Time CCC Transfer	Fall 2009	11	2.79	2.66	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%	90.9%	18.2%	72.7%	90.9%	0.0%	90.9%	0.0%	90.9%	0.0%
	Fall 2010	26	2.94	2.94	100.0%	92.3%	3.8%	76.9%	65.4%	15.4%	73.1%	3.8%	80.8%	0.0%	80.8%	0.0%
Race/ Ethnicity All	Fall 2011	12	2.90	2.77	100.0%	91.7%	0.0%	83.3%	25.0%	58.3%	83.3%	0.0%	91.7%	0.0%	91.7%	0.0%
	Fall 2012	15	2.76	2.74	100.0%	80.0%	0.0%	80.0%	33.3%	46.7%	60.0%	6.7%	73.3%	6.7%	73.3%	0.0%
Ethnicity Detail All	Fall 2013	17	3.07	2.91	94.1%	94.1%	5.9%	70.6%	58.8%	23.5%	70.6%	11.8%	76.5%	5.9%	76.5%	5.9%
	Fall 2014	19	2.88	3.15	94.7%	94.7%	10.5%	84.2%	73.7%	21.1%	94.7%	0.0%	94.7%	0.0%		
Institution of Origin All	Fall 2015	15	2.87	2.76	93.3%	93.3%	6.7%	86.7%	53.3%	26.7%	73.3%	6.7%				
	Fall 2016	9	3.22	2.99	100.0%	77.8%	33.3%	44.4%	66.7%	11.1%						
College at Entry All	Fall 2017	11	3.10	3.26	100.0%	100.0%	9.1%	90.9%								
	Fall 2018	13	3.25	3.09	92.3%	92.3%										
	Fall 2019	7	3.06	2.98	100.0%											
	Grand Total	172	2.94	2.92	97.7%	91.5%	5.9%	80.9%	52.5%	29.1%	75.8%	4.5%	82.9%	1.7%	80.6%	1.0%

Note: Cohort includes all first-time transfer students from a California community college who transfer in as a sophomore or above. Entry GPA reflects transfer GPA.

It will also be of value to distinguish graduation rates by degree, rather than combining data from both the viticulture or enology degree as each presents a unique set of challenges. The above graduation rates combine both majors, so it remains difficult to effectively determine present roadblocks, and if so the development of effective remedies for such. However, as mentioned above most of the roadblocks are in the viticulture side. The roadblocks in the enology side are mostly class overlaps with chemistry and some problems of students having to repeat chemistry classes for not being able to meet the C or higher requirements of the department.

Retention rates:

The First Time Freshmen and First Time Transfers retention rate after one year are 87.5% and 92.3%, respectively (Table 2). The Freshmen retention rate is higher than JCAST’s retention rate (85%), the transfer student retention rate is slightly lower than that of the College (93.6%). Compared to last year (2018/2019), the retention rate for Freshmen is higher but that of the transfers is lower. Therefore, the department should focus on increasing the retention rate of both Freshmen and Transfers. Perhaps, the newly introduced VIT 162T (Introduction to Viticulture) class will help in keeping the Freshmen connected to the Department.

Student grades as affected by the pandemic

A number of students may have been affected by the virtual instruction adopted due to the COVID-19 pandemic (Table 4). The issues ranged from students stopping attendance in classes, inability to cope with the virtual instruction method, and unknown causes despite instructor attempts to contact them. Some of them elected to take a C/NC option or were awarded ‘Incomplete’. In some cases the instructor had to assign a ‘WU’ grade as the students did not respond to attempts to contact them. However, it is not known if

these performances were due to the pandemic or tardiness on the students' part. Hopefully, these students will re-enroll or complete their remaining tasks (those with I's) to get a letter grade.

Table 4. Number of students probably affected by issues associated with the COVID-19 pandemic in Spring 2020.

Course	D	WU	NC	I
	<i>No. of students</i>			
ENOL 15	-	-	-	1
ENOL 140	-	-	1	-
ENOL 166	1	-	1	-
ENOL 173	2	-	-	-
VIT 15	1	2	-	-
VIT 160	-	-	-	1
VIT 162T	-	-	-	1

2. Operational performance

- a. There were very few respondents (only 2) in the workplace quality survey to draw any meaningful conclusions or plan of action for the future. The steps we have taken to 'not always do what we've always done' include the development of more 'in-house' classes to reduce dependency on other departments. Some of the courses have come at the risk of opposition and criticism from other departments. However, as a department, we have to focus in the interest of our own students in helping them complete their degrees in time without compromising the quality of education. So, our focus may come at a cost of opposition from other departments but the current need for us is to focus on building our strength and sustainability instead of appeasing other departments. These statements may come out strong but there does not seem to be an alternative, at least in the current situation.

b. Broadening and deepening relationships with external audiences

- What did you do expand or deepen relationships on and off campus?
- How effective were you?
- Provide an updated listing of the advisory committee membership and any changes made to the membership in 2019-20. Use the attached template.

Fortunately, the department has always had a strong relationship with stakeholders and industry. However, the department underwent a lack of confidence with this group during the time when several faculty and staff left or retired at the same time. In recent years, the focus of the department has been in rebuilding this confidence of this audience and also parents of potential students. It has been a slow process, but it has gradually started to change in the positive direction. Perhaps, the department is the most active in the number

of activities held annually for external and internal audiences and that has been continued. Most of our faculty and staff have readily participated in national, statewide and regional events, e.g. Unified Wine and Grape Symposium, Word Ag Expo, etc.

As department chair, I have tried to attend as many of these events as possible. Having been effective or the extent of personal effectiveness in building these relationships is open to interpretation. Personally, building and deepening off-campus relationship has not been my goal. My goal has been to try and address the academic issues in the department with the intention that it is easier to try and expand external relationship once internal issues are solved and we can make ourselves more presentable. My personal opinion also is that external opinions should be considered in strengthening the department, but these opinions should be in accordance with university policies and procedures.

3. Advisory committee:

The list of committee members on the Industry Advisory Board is also included as a sperate Excel file attachment.

Table 8: Advisory committee composition of the VE Department

Prefix	First Name	Last Name	Position	Company	Street Address	City	State	Zip Code	Email	Business Phone	Cell Phone	Industry	Position on			# of terms served
													Advisory Board	Term begin	Term end	
Mr.	Dwayne	Cardoza	Chairman	Raisin Bargaining Association	1258 W. Manning	Fresno	CA	93706	dwayne.cardoza@email.com		559-269-7831	Raisins	Member	3/22/2019	6/30/2020	1
Mr.	Matt	Frank	Viticulturist	Trincherro Family Estates	PO Box 298, 100 St. Helen Hwy	St. Helena	CA		mfrank@tfwines.com		916-919-5266	Wine	Member	3/22/2019	6/30/2020	1
	Cathy	Ference	Director, Bulk Wine	Treasury Wine	1000 Prott	St. Helena	CA		cathy.ference@tweglobal.com		707-484-7598	Wine	Member	7/1/2018	6/30/2022	3
	Dianne	Nury	President	Vie-Del Company	PO Box 2908	Fresno	CA	93745	dnury@vie-del.com	559-834-2525	559-779-4757	Wine	Vice Chair	7/1/2018	6/30/2022	6
Mr.	Jim	Coleman	CEO	E&J Gallo		Modesto	CA		james.coleman@ejgallo.com			Wine	Chairman	7/1/2016	6/30/2020	6
Mr.	Fred	Franzia	CEO	Bronco Wine Co.					fredfranzia@broncowines.com			Wine		7/1/2016	6/30/2020	5
Mr.	John	Crossland	Owner	Crossland Vineyards					jcrossland@vineyardpro.com	805-550-1564		Wine grapes		7/1/2016	6/30/2020	2
Mr.	Keith	Horn				Napa	CA		horn4@comcast.net	707-974-3800		Wine		7/1/2017	6/30/2021	2
Mr.	Nat	DiBuduo		Independent Consultant					nat.dars@gmail.com			Wine grapes		7/1/2016	6/30/2020	6
Mr.	Jerry	DiBuduo	President	DiBuduo Land Management Co., Inc.	2555 W Bluff #157	Fresno	CA	93711	jdibuduo@dlmco.com			Table grapes		7/1/2017	6/30/2021	2
Mr.	Wayde	Kirschenman	President	Kirschenman Enterprises, Inc.					wkirschenman@kejiproduce.com			Table grapes		7/1/2017	6/30/2021	2
Mr.	Brian	Vos	CEO	The Wine Group					brian.vos@thewinegroup.com			Wine		7/1/2017	6/30/2021	4
Mr.	Rick	Stark		Grower Relations Mar Sun Maid					rstark@sunmaid.com			Raisins		7/1/2016	6/30/2020	4