



## MEMO

Date: September 11, 2017  
To: Rick Muma, Senior Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Strategic Enrollment Management  
CC: Ron Matson, Dean of the Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
From: Dennis Livesay, Dean of the Graduate School and Associate Vice President of Research and Technology Transfer  
Re: Department of Sociology 3-Year Program Review

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This review is part of the 3-year review process of the Department of Sociology at Wichita State University. As Dean of the Graduate School, my review will primarily be focused on the Master of Arts degree. I concur with the LAS dean's assessment regarding the quality of this document. It is a great example of what a program review document should do – it is retrospective and, of course, analyses the data, but more importantly it also 'closes the loop' to address identified shortcomings and also tells where the department is going. I should add that I was similarly impressed by your Graduate Enrollment Management (GEM) plan, particularly the multiple paths approach of the MA program. Great job on both!

I offer the following as helpful suggestions:

- The graduate school is working hard on development of professional development opportunities and training for our students. I love that the department's plan includes strengthening of career pathways for graduate students. I would love for to collaborate with the department on this, and perhaps develop best practices how other programs could similarly scaffold such content across their curricula.
- I support the department's goal of increasing enrollment in the master's program, and am very excited to see that they've already taken proactive steps to increase enrollment. With that said, I would encourage the department to be thinking beyond just 8-10 students per year. Given the multiple paths approach of their GEM plan, there is capacity for numbers beyond that in the less quantitative/research focused tracks.