

Health Studies

2016 Annual Implementation Report

Submitted by: Dr. James A. LeClair, Coordinator

Date: 25 May, 2016

Recommendations from 2014-2015 Final Assessment Report

Recommendation: Development of additional courses for on-line delivery (Reviewers' Recommendation #7).	
Responsibility for Implementation: Program Coordinator, Dean	Responsibility for Resourcing: n/a
Anticipated Completion Date: Develop a plan by January 2016	
Additional Notes: The Program Coordinator will work closely with CTIE to develop the courses.	
2015-2016 Progress (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In Progress <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please explain):	
Unit Comments: A unit decision has been made to develop an online version of HS200 (Social Determinants of Health) in addition to HS201 (Canadian Health Care Systems) which was already in progress. Development of an online version of HS303 (Environment and Health) has been deferred, and will be reconsidered in the Fall of 2016.	
Decanal Comments: It will be important that the development of the first two courses be completed this academic year as the faculty member has been working on them for well over a year. The dean will consult with the program coordinator to monitor progress. The dean expects the first two courses will be ready and available for September 2017.	
PRS Comments: It sounds like the program has made good progress toward this recommendation. Please provide an update on the status of online course developments in next year's report.	

Recommendation: Transform the Health Studies Program to the Health Studies Department (Reviewers' Recommendation #3).	
Responsibility for Implementation: Program Coordinator, Dean	Responsibility for Resourcing: n/a
Anticipated Completion Date: January 2017	
2015-2016 Progress (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In Progress <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please explain):	
Unit Comments: Discussion of this transition has been undertaken within the unit, and paperwork to propose the change will commence in the summer of 2016.	
Decanal Comments: The dean supports the transformation of the health studies programs to a department. The dean will work with the program coordinator to ensure the paper work is ready to go forward in November of 2016. The goal is to departmentalize by January of 2017.	
PRS Comments: Please provide the committee with an update on how the transition toward departmentalization has gone in next year's report.	

Recommendation: Development of courses in health promotion and health program design and evaluation (Reviewers' Recommendation #10).	
Responsibility for Implementation: Program Coordinator, Dean	Responsibility for Resourcing: n/a
Anticipated Completion Date: n/a	
Additional Notes: The Health Studies Program needs to stabilize from the most recent changes to curriculum and its new partnership with Conestoga College. Once the program has done so and there is an increase in enrolment the program will engage in strategic curriculum development. The Dean will be involved with the discussions in regard to the need for new courses and the resource implications for both program and the faculty.	
2015-2016 Progress (check one): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> In Progress <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please explain):	
Unit Comments: No changes have been made to the programs. Any near-term changes will be aimed at offering additional areas of specialization within the programs, and will have no impact on the core curriculum.	
Decanal Comments: The dean agrees that there will be a hiatus from developing new programs in the area of health studies. All focus now must shift to stabilizing the current offerings and attracting additional students. The program has seen a decline in enrolment which is concerning and may be, in part, due to the number of changes which have occurred in the programs over the last years. Continuity will allow the program to focus on recruitment and retention. Developing on-line courses will be the focus of the program this year and will be where resources are focused.	
PRS Comments: In discussing this recommendation, the committee felt that consultation with the Health Sciences department and/or Community Psychology would be advisable, as there may be either new or existing course sharing opportunities in the areas of health promotion and health program design and evaluation that could be explored. Please provide an update in next year's report.	

Recommendation: The hiring of an additional scientist for the program (Reviewers' Recommendation #1).	
Responsibility for Implementation: VPA, Dean	Responsibility for Resourcing: Enrolment-dependent (FHSS)
Anticipated Completion Date: Cannot presently be assigned a date.	
Additional Notes: Additional faculty hires will be based on prioritization within Faculty by Dean.	
2015-2016 Progress (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> In Progress <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please explain):	

Unit Comments: The unit supports this recommendation, but is not empowered to allocate faculty positions.

Decanal Comments: The dean supports this recommendation in principle but must allocate faculty positions to areas of growth in programming and student needs. There may be a need for more science courses on the Brantford campus that would benefit students across both faculties. We are currently in discussion with the Dean of Science on this matter. It may be that the Faculty of Science may be represented on the Brantford campus which could potentially ease the need for a science hire in health studies.

PRS Comments: The committee noted that collaborations with other existing programs could be leveraged in order to address this recommendation, but felt that decisions around staffing should be deferred to the appropriate channels. There is no need to report on it further.

Additional Comments (Unit): Closer ties/opportunities for collaboration with the Department of Health Sciences are being sought, as suggested by the reviewers.

Additional Comments (Dean(s)): It is now a time for the health studies programs to stabilize and work to ensure the programs are well advertised and recruited. The program coordinator has worked very hard this year to review the program and identify areas of strength and areas of potential growth. In a time of both budget constraints and the implementation of a new budget model, new faculty positions must be considered carefully and follow programs that have a demonstrated need for positions either due to high student/faculty ratio, high growth, or a new program in need of core faculty. I recognize that health studies might benefit from another hire but currently the number of students cannot justify it for at least the next year or two.

Additional Comments (PRS): Throughout their discussion of this report, the committee noted the potential for collaborations with existing units at Laurier, such as the Health Sciences department. We look forward to hearing updates on the progress of the remaining recommendations in next year's report. Please also see below for an additional recommendation from the Program Review Sub-Committee.

Additional Recommendation from the Program Review Sub-Committee: At its November 11th, 2013 meeting, Senate Academic Planning approved the following motion: "that the Senate Academic Planning Committee, on the recommendation of the Program Review Sub-Committee, approve the inclusion of a university-wide recommendation on each Annual Implementation Report that, prior to the next cyclical review, the program develop a means for assessing program learning outcomes." A full explanation of the rationale behind the motion can be found here: [http://legacy.wlu.ca/documents/56385/PRS Recommendation for Annual Implementation Reports SAPC Nov 11 2013.pdf](http://legacy.wlu.ca/documents/56385/PRS_Recommendation_for_Annual_Implementation_Reports_SAPC_Nov_11_2013.pdf)