

Department of History
(undergraduate programs)
2016 Annual Implementation Report

Submitted by: Dr Darren Mulloy

Date: March 15, 2016

Recommendations from 2013-2014 Final Assessment Report

Recommendation: Review caps for first year courses in Brantford (Reviewer's Recommendation #5).	
Responsibility: Dean of Liberal Arts	Implementation Date: December 2014
Additional Notes: Classroom sizes, internal equity and budgets will need to be considered in any discussion of caps.	
Recommendation completed (2015).	

Recommendation: Review caps for fourth year courses in Brantford (Reviewers' Recommendation #5).	
Responsibility: Dean of Liberal Arts	Implementation Date: December 2014
Additional Notes: Classroom sizes, internal equity and budgets will need to be considered in any discussion of caps.	
Recommendation completed (2015).	

Recommendation: Raise course caps in fourth year courses in Waterloo to 20, and possibly higher after consultation with the Department (Dean of Arts Recommendation).	
Responsibility: Dean of Arts	Implementation Date: December 2014
Recommendation completed (2015).	

Recommendation: Develop a strategic vision for harmonizing course offerings at the first and second year as much as possible (Reviewers' Recommendations #9 and #17).	
Responsibility: Chair, Department of History; Program Coordinator, Brantford	Implementation Date: Winter 2015
<p>2014-2015 Actions</p> <p>Unit Response: The History Department and Brantford Program have created a four-member History Multi-Campus Program Coordinating Committee (HMCPC) to facilitate this process. The Committee receives and votes on all curriculum changes approved by the Waterloo DIC/Brantford PCC which affect the first two years of the History curriculum. Recommendations for revisions to DIC/PCC resolutions are returned to the Department/Program for discussion as are any resolutions that fail to win the support of a majority on the HMCPC. History faculty on both campuses are committed to continuing to develop a mutually supportive and creative relationship, including encouraging the holding of combined annual retreats to aid with strategic planning.</p> <p>Liberal Arts Decanal Response: This is good progress towards this goal. I encourage both groups to articulate the content of this 'strategic vision' through discussions in the HMCPC and combined annual retreats described above.</p>	

Faculty of Arts Decanal Response: I concur with the Decanal response from the FLA, and also encourage both academic units to continue collaborating in order to harmonize their offerings to best serve students on each campus.

PRS Comments: The committee looks forward to an update in next year's report on any progress made on this recommendation.

2015-2016 Progress (check one):

Completed

In Progress

Other (please explain):

Unit Comments: The HMCPC has functioned well over the past year. It has met three times to discuss and approve new curriculum submissions at the first- and second-year levels from both campuses. Both the History Department and the Brantford Program remain committed to the process and to a collegial and constructive relationship.

Decanal Comments:

Faculty of Liberal Arts Response: I agree that the HMCPC has functioned well this year. The process appears to be working, and it is my hope that it continues to do so. I also encourage the continuance/regularization of the combined annual retreats, especially in the wake of WLU's new Strategic Academic Plan.

Faculty of Arts Response: The HMCPC provides a method for harmonizing the courses offered on each campus that succeeds through regular consultation. It is worth considering whether similar committees for other units, or a larger effort at regular interactions addressing curriculum development, should be attempted.

PRS Comments: The committee considers this recommendation to be completed and acknowledges that consultation between the History Department and Brantford Program is an ongoing initiative, the current process for which appears to be functioning effectively. There is no need to report on this recommendation further.

Additional Comments (PRS): The committee has been impressed by the Department of History's commitment to implementing the recommendations that came out of the 2013 - 2014 Final Assessment Report. For the purposes of reporting, the recommendations are all considered to be completed and no further implementation reports will be required. The next scheduled cyclical review for the program will be as part of the 2020-2021 review cycle. The committee wishes the Department and the Program the best of luck with its initiatives in the coming years.