

Faculty Committee on Program Review
Annual Report, Academic Year 2012-13
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History: The Faculty Committee on Program Review (FCPR) was created by the Faculty Senate in 1996 to implement periodic external reviews of departments as mandated by President Rawlings. Peter Stein chaired the first committee, which established procedures, guidelines, and the review cycle for the entire university. In January 2001, Stephen Hamilton was appointed as Chair. Under Steve's guidance, the FCPR worked to standardize and streamline the guidelines and procedures, including a revised format for self studies. Joanne Fortune became Chair in January 2003. With Joanne's leadership, the committee brought to completion a backlog of over thirty reviews that had accumulated because of late reports by deans and department heads. Jim Jenkins succeeded Joanne in January 2005, with the challenge of completing the first cycle of reviews and beginning the second. In September 2007, Brian Chabot was appointed Chair. Under Brian's direction, the schedule for the second cycle of reviews was completed in 2008 and the second-cycle reviews began in 2009. During spring 2009, the FCPR acted in concert with the Provost to temporarily suspend external review site visits both as a budget savings measure and because the immediate financial stress departments were experiencing might perturb the review's intended long-term view. Clif Pollock became Chair in September 2009. While reviews were suspended, all college Deans were interviewed on the strengths and weaknesses of the external review process, and revised guidelines for the self-study were established. External reviews began again in 2012 using these new guidelines.

Kristin Walker continues to provide staff support to the committee and to maintain the "historical" record of the reviews.

Accomplishments: In the 2012-2013 academic year, nine site visits took place. Three report reviews have been completed and sent to the Provost; six reports are current in preparation. Two reviews that occurred in academic year 2008-2009 never received a response from the respective departments and Deans, so to bring this to closure the FCPR summarized the external reviews without the feedback and sent the reports to the Provost.

Eleven departments are preparing for their site visit and their reviews should be completed during the coming year (Appendix I). In consultation with the Deans and Department chairs, the scheduled date of some reviews was adjusted to best fit the time and talent resources of the department. Appendix II summarizes the progress of the first and second review cycles over the past fifteen years.

Institutional Research and Planning has significantly helped departments prepare their self-studies by guiding access to the Academic Analytics Database. The database includes information on over 9,000 PhD programs at more than 385 universities, and enables comparisons at specific level appropriate to each department. Feedback from departments and colleges concerning this new resource has been positive.

Summary: The committee completed a year in which eleven reviews were active. Five of these are now completed. The pace of review continues at a rate that will enable a review of all departments within a 7-10 year window.

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Appendix I Summary of 20012-13 Accomplishments

Active Reviews:

- **Final report sent to Provost, External Review Team visit 2008-2009**
 - Hotel Administration
 - Johnson Graduate School of Management
- **Final report sent to Provost, External Review Team visit 2012-2013**
 - Science and Technology Studies
 - Economics
 - Nutritional Science
- **External review team visit occurred, reporting not completed**
 - Biological and Environmental Engineering
 - Natural Resources
 - Systems Engineering
 - Chemistry and Chemical Biology
 - Art
 - Microbiology

Scheduled Reviews 2013-2014:

- Biological Statistics and Computation Biology
- Anthropology
- Operations Research and Information Engineering
- Baker Institute and Feline Health Center
- Molecular Medicine
- Romance Studies
- Materials Science and Engineering
- Population Medicine and Diagnostic Sciences
- Law
- History
- Fiber Science and Apparel Design

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Appendix II
Reviews Completed, Ordered by Year of External Review Team Visit

1997-1998

Electrical Engineering
Microbiology (Division of Biological Sciences)
Plant Engineering
Rural Sociology

1998-1999

Agricultural, Resource, and Managerial Economics
Animal Science
Bailey Hortorium (Division of Biological Sciences)
Biochemical, Molecular, and Cell Biology (Division of Biological Sciences)
Computer Science
Ecology and Systematics (Division of Biological Sciences)
Fruit and Vegetable Science (Ithaca), Horticultural Science (Geneva)
Genetics and Development (Division of Biological Sciences)
Linguistics
Neurobiology and Behavior
Nutritional Sciences
Plant Biology (Division of Biological Sciences)
Plant Pathology
Physiology (Division of Biological Sciences)

1999-2000

Communication
Natural Resources
Ornithology
Theoretical and Applied Mechanics

2000-2001

Agricultural and Biological Engineering
Anthropology
Biomedical Sciences
CIIFAD
Clinical Sciences
Economics
Education
Einaudi Center
Floriculture and Ornamental Horticulture
History
History of Art
Microbiology and Immunology
Psychology
Science and Technology Studies
Sociology
Art

2001-2002

Chemistry and Chemical Biology
City and Regional Planning
Crop and Soil Science
German Studies
Government
Johnson Museum
Music
Policy Analysis and Management
Operations Research and Industrial Engineering

2002-2003

Asian Studies
Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
Classics
Comparative Literature
Near Eastern Studies
Philosophy
Romance Studies
Textiles and Apparel
Theatre, Film, and Dance

2003-2004

Baker Institute
Cornell University Press
Astronomy
English
Materials Science and Engineering
Mathematics

2004-2005

Applied and Engineering Physics
Design and Environmental Analysis
Earth and Atmospheric Science
Food Science
Physics
Population Medicine and Diagnostic Sciences

2005-2006

Africana
Civil and Environmental Engineering
Entomology
Family Life Development Center
Law
Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
Molecular Medicine
Society for the Humanities

2006-2007

Architecture
Electrical and Computer Engineering
Industrial and Labor Relations
Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

2007-2008

Computer Science
Cornell Institute for Public Affairs
Development Sociology
Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Human Development (with Cornell Institute for Research on Children)
Linguistics
Molecular Biology and Genetics
Neurobiology and Behavior
Plant Breeding and Genetics
Plant Pathology (Ithaca & Geneva)

2008-2009

Animal Science
Applied Economics and Management
Asian Studies
Hotel Administration
Johnson Graduate School of Management
Laboratory of Ornithology
Psychology
Real Estate
Sociology

2009-2010

Year one of a two-year suspension of Program Review.

2010-2011

Year two of a two-year suspension of Program Review.
Communication

2011-2012

Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
Clinical Sciences
History of Art
Microbiology and Immunology
City and Regional Planning
Biomedical Sciences

2012-2013

Biological and Environmental Engineering*
Economics
Systems Engineering*
Microbiology*
Chemistry and Chemical Biology*
Art*
Natural Resources*
Nutritional Science
Science and Technology Studies

*External review team visit completed, reports pending