

Faculty Committee on Program Review Annual Report, Academic Year 2011-12

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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: During the past year, six site visits took place, of which to date one is nearly completed. The other five are in the cycle of receiving reports and comments. Ten 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 eleven years.

The web site for External Review was completely rebuilt by the staff in Institutional Research and Planning to better support the process. The site, <http://irp.dpb.cornell.edu/internal/academic-program-review>, provides immediate access to the updated guidelines for self-study, as well as instructions and advice on how to plan and schedule the review. Feedback from the departments that underwent review this year was extremely positive about this resource.

Summary: The committee successfully restarted the review program within the university, completing a year in which six reviews are active, and initiated 10 department reviews for the upcoming year. The pace of review is back to where it was prior to the suspension in 2009, and is at a rate that will enable a review of all departments within a 7-10 year window.

**Faculty Committee on Program Review
Appendix I
Summary of 20011-12 Accomplishments**

Active Reviews:

- **External review team visit occurred, reporting not completed**
 - Biomedical Sciences
 - Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
 - City and Regional Planning
 - Clinical Sciences
 - History of Art
 - Microbiology and Immunology

Scheduled Reviews 2012-2013:

- Biological and Environmental Engineering
- Chemistry and Chemical Biology
- Economics
- Materials Science and Engineering
- Microbiology
- Natural Resources
- Nutritional Science
- Operations Research and Industrial Engineering
- Science and Technology Studies

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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*

*External review team visit completed, reports pending