

Undergraduate Program Review

Canadian Studies, BA

Executive Summaries

The Undergraduate Program Review (UPR) of the Bachelor of Arts degree programs in Canadian Studies was conducted in April 2010. The consultants were: Dr. Jane Koustas (Brock University, external) and Dr. Patrick Taylor (York University, internal).

Following the receipt of the unit and decanal responses to the consultants' report, members of the Senate Joint Sub-Committee on Quality Assurance met with the following program/Faculty representatives on March 12, 2012 to review the progress toward implementing the recommendations and opportunities for program enhancement:

Kenneth McRoberts, Principal, Glendon College
Geoffrey Ewen, Coordinator, Canadian Studies

A series of recommendations and suggestions were made by the consultants to enhance the programs and address their specific challenges. Throughout the review process, the participation and responses of the programs have been thoughtful, open and constructive. Included below is a summary of the program development considerations, initiatives and plans identified at the meetings.

Recommendations:

One theme of the recommendations is program identity. The reviewers made several suggestions to help increase the visibility of Canadian Studies at Glendon. The program has confirmed that it is taking up a series of initiatives such as:

- visiting first and second year courses to promote the major
- enhanced outreach to majors and minors in the program
- re-establishing an advisory board for the program

A second focus of the recommendations is the program cohesiveness. In response, the program will:

- articulate the required competencies in the context of the degree level expectations as well as the program learning outcomes, and map them to the requirements to foster cohesiveness (as is a requirement for all York University programs)
- review the structure of the fourth year capstone course to examine the possibility of a team taught course by fulltime faculty
- explore the possibility of adding experiential learning components

A third theme referenced resources and the key recommendations to take up



included:

- Glendon establishing a stronger connection with the Robarts Centre for Canadian Studies (this action will need to be clarified in the context of general recommendations regarding ORUs)
- exploring opportunities for the Glendon program to explore initiatives with Canadian Studies program on the Keele campus to both strengthen each program and share resources where opportunities exist

A final recommendation focused on the Canadian Studies-Bachelor of Education students. The program will liaise with the Faculty of Education to ensure effective communication about Canadian Studies as a teachable subject for those students.

It should be noted that progress has already been made on some of the above recommendations.

Rhonda Lenton, Vice-Provost Academic
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