On March 15, 2013, the History SAC presented their Discipline Review findings to an audience of PCC administrators. Both the written report and the presentation were informative and thought provoking. Your presentation provided an opportunity for engagement and discussion with those in attendance.

This Administrative Response will:
• note particular commendations of the History faculty and your Discipline Review;
• provide the administrative response to the History SAC recommendations.

Commendations

- Comprehensive Learning Assessment reports from 09-10, 10-11, 11-12 (Appendices D, E and F), and evidence of thoughtful engagement with the process of ongoing development of appropriate assessments.
- Highly qualified and committed faculty (full-time and part-time) from diverse backgrounds.
- Expanding Dual Credit opportunities for students and establishing relationships with High School faculty throughout the PCC district.
- Development of the History Summit on WWII with high school students.
- History SAC involvement in College-Wide Committee work, EAC, CIEE, CCHA, Title VI grant, and Honors Courses
- Service beyond PCC—refereed journal, textbook critiques
- On-going work with Portland State University related to course articulation and transfer.
- Extensive use of the assessment/feedback/program improvement planning and implementation as evidenced in the changes to courses and assignments.
- Changes to instructor qualifications.

Administrative Response to History SAC Recommendations

Recommendations:
1. The History SAC’s most important recommendation is its call for a second, full-time, permanent history position at the Cascade Campus with a focus on Western Civilization and the ability to teach other non-US courses in all modalities.

   *We appreciate your recommendation, however we feel the decision should be based on a campus discussion and after a careful analysis of enrollment and campus needs.*

2. The history SAC hopes to alleviate a persistent enrollment issue in the Western Civilization and American History survey classes. For many years, students have enrolled disproportionately in the first course in both of those survey sequences.
We recommend that success rates in HST 101 and 201 be reviewed by the relevant division deans as a possibility to explore. The Division Deans and Faculty Department Chairs from the Social Sciences meet quarterly to review offerings across the college. The declining number of offerings, especially in US history, may reflect declining student demand. This could also be an advising issue since HST 101 and 201 are not prerequisites for the other courses. We encourage you to reach out to the Advising Coordinators at each campus: Susan Wilson, Cascade Michelle Luff, Rock Creek Phillip Christain, Southeast, Lucinda Eschelman, Sylvania

A review of the frequency of section offerings at each campus each term may be needed.

3. The History SAC would like to express to PCC administration its concern over the growing diversion of faculty time from scholarship and instruction and toward administrative tasks.

The increase in the work that diverts faculty from scholarship and instruction, but which focuses on assessment of student learning should not be viewed as administrative tasks, because it is work that should be done by faculty, is a faculty responsibility and should be integral to evaluating and improving teaching and learning in your discipline. We know that the SAC understands that this work is integral to addressing compliance issues and accreditation and appreciate the effort the History SAC has made in this direction.

4. Pursuant to the prior point, the History SAC also recommends that PCC administration acknowledge the increasing burdens placed upon the SAC Chair position, the new responsibility of having a faculty member coordinate assessment, and the recently increased requirements of the Program/Discipline Review by granting an appropriate amount of course release to account for that workload.

Increased demands for accountability and declining state and federal resources for our students are a reality. Other SACs have tried to address these challenges by appointing SAC co-chairs or tri-chairs (for very large SACs) to help with these SAC responsibilities.

5. The History SAC reiterates its recommendation from the 2008 Discipline Review that the administration prioritize the provision of private offices for faculty. Although each campus has bond projects that will provide faculty workspaces for both full-time and part-time faculty and meeting areas for students and faculty, this varies by campus. It is our understanding that all Faculty Department chairs will have offices which is a new standard for PCC. Please work with your division deans and Dean of Instruction to ensure that faculty have input for those workspaces and meeting spaces.

6. The History SAC plans to develop a formal program of study to serve PCC students who intend to pursue a Bachelor’s Degree in history after they transfer to a four-year institution. We encourage your engagement in this area. It is our understanding that the EAC Degrees and Certificates Committee is revising the Focus Award guidelines. Please contact Susanne Christopher, EAC Chair, Degrees & Certificate Committee for those revised guidelines. This recommendation also aligns well with the Degree Qualifications Profile work underway in
Oregon through the Lumina Grant especially as it relates to vertical alignment with 4 year universities in Oregon. For more information on this project, see: https://www.oregondqp.org/

We encourage the History SAC to get involved in this work. Please contact Craig Kolins, Dean of Instruction, Southeast, Kendra Cawley, Dean of Academic Affairs, Michele Marden, Chair, Learning Assessment Council or Wayne Hooke, Vice Chair, Learning Assessment Council.

7. In light of the large number of PCC students who transfer to PSU, the History SAC also proposes to develop a more durable relationship with the Portland State University History Department.

We concur with your recommendation to strengthen the transfer success of PCC students.

Closing
In closing, we want to again thank the History SAC for sharing the results of your discipline review with us. We enjoyed learning more about your successes and plans for the future. We look forward to supporting your on-going work and your focus on continuous program improvement.

Administrative Response respectfully submitted by Dr. Craig Kolins, on behalf of:

Cheryl Scott, Interim Dean of Instruction, Rock Creek Campus
Craig Kolins, Dean of Instruction & Student Development Southeast Center/Extended Learning Campus
Jeff Triplett, Dean of Instruction, Sylvania Campus
Kendra Cawley, Dean of Academic Affairs
Scott Huff & Kurt Simonds, Deans of Instruction, Cascade Campus