ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSE

PROGRAM/DISCIPLINE: Women’s Studies

DATE: December 2, 2011

Opening Remark: Your program presentation was very impressive. We liked the student participation as well as hearing from the PCC staff who work elsewhere in the college. It is clear that you are all passionate about this discipline and have worked hard to grow your program.

Commendations:

- Including the Women’s Resource Center’ coordinators in the SAC
- Addition of WS 201 and 202 since last program review
- Expanding offerings to all campuses
- Addition of DL offering
- Creation of articulation agreements with OSU and PSU
- Increasing Service Learning in the program
- 21 Focus Awards awarded
- Work done on internationalization
- Steady growth in student enrollment
- Participation in multiple college events
- We agree with your stated strengths:
  - A low cost program
  - Interdisciplinary
  - High levels of college service and dedication
  - Facilitators of student success
  - A driving force in campus diversity programming

Responses to recommendations:

Instructor qualifications and staffing:
• Rewrite the instructor qualifications to reflect the growth of graduate degrees in the field.

**Highlight the WS Focus Award:**

• Continue to work on expanding the awareness of WS to the faculty and the students. Not only through the WRC, but also through presentations to advisors at their trainings and introductions to the program at multiple SAC meetings.
• Work with administration to investigate the option of cross listing classes

Continue to help the WS program stabilize and grow;
A dedicated Women’s Studies budget and org codes for all three campuses; solution to the problem of fulfilling SAC responsibilities without FT WS faculty

• Continue to work with division deans to seek support from the district to dedicate money to fund the program.
• Ask for a F/T WS faculty to be put on the new initiatives list

**Banner configuration:**

• Work with administration to look into options with banner’s ability to cross list classes. This is a problem for all of the special disciplines and is not going to be easily resolved.

**Classroom Design Changes:**

• Department chairs can request specific rooms for specific courses. An important first step is to make sure department chairs hiring WS faculty request classrooms for WS courses that meet the needs of the instructors/discipline. On campuses with bond projects underway, it is important for department chairs and division deans of WS faculty to make sure that appropriately equipped classrooms are created in the new facilities.

**Recommendations/areas of SAC needs:**

• Pursue Dr. Gerber’s offer to participate in a task investigating ways in which they could tackle common problems. Most focus award programs face similar challenges with Banner, marketing to students and other faculty, raising the profile of the focus award to make it a more powerful tool for students completing them. Dr. Gerber could help you bring together multiple faculty responsible for focus awards to find solutions to their common problems that work for all the programs.
- Collaborate and consult with other program award groups (Asian Studies, Creative Writing, Peace and conflict Studies, Sustainability, Honors, and Internationalization) to learn more about how students are recruited and formally awarded.

- Create a rubric for evaluating WS classes from the WS perspective rather than the other programs perspective.

- Work on using assessments of student work to inform curriculum and program improvement

- Try to organize alternative times each academic year for the WR SAC to meet that do not conflict with college-designated SAC meeting days.

This discipline has many challenges. We agree that having no designated full-time faculty members and no designated budget are the biggest obstacles WS faces right now. Creating a district budget for the program and hiring a full-time WS faculty member will require cooperation of multiple disciplines, faculty and administration, across all campuses. One way of providing additional support for WS, while those efforts are underway, is to hire casual employees and work-student students to support faculty work on behalf of the program, especially marketing and promotion.

Closing Comments:

Although you have many challenges, it is clear that your classes are a huge benefit and opportunity for your students. We appreciate your hard work and dedication.

Submitted by Julie Kopet for the DOI’s