**

**SUBMITTED TO OUCQA FOR INFORMATION – JUNE 13, 2016**

**APPROVED BY TRENT UNIVERSITY’S SENATE COMMITTEE – SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

**FINAL ASSESSMENT REPORT – CYCLICAL REVIEW**

**BA/BSc ANTHROPOLOGY**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **DEGREE PROGRAMS BEING REVIEWED** | **BA/BSc in Anthropology** |
| **EXTERNAL REVIEWERS** | **Dr. Patricia McAnany, University of North Carolina****Dr. Holly Wardlow, University of Toronto** |
| **INTERNAL REPRESENTATIVE** | **Dr. Byron Lew, Trent University** |
| **DATE OF REVIEW VISIT** | **October 6-7, 2014** |

**SUMMARY**

This Final Assessment Report (FAR), in accordance with Trent University’s Institutional Quality Assurance Policy (IQAP), provides a synthesis of the cyclical review of the undergraduate degree programs. The report considers four evaluation documents: the Program’s Self-Study, the External Reviewers’ Report, the Program Response, and the Decanal Response. A summary of the review process is as follows: the academic unit(s) is responsible for completing a self-study which encompasses all degree programs under review. The self-study addresses all components of the evaluation criteria as outlined in Trent’s IQAP. Appendices will include the course outlines in each of the degree programs and CVs for full-time faculty members teaching in the degree programs. Qualified external reviewers are invited to conduct a review of the degree programs which involves a review of all relevant documentation (self-study, appendices, IQAP), and participating in a university site visit. During the site visit reviewers meet with the Provost and Vice President Academic, relevant Dean(s), the Chair and or Director of the degree program(s), full- and part-time faculty, support staff and students. Once the external reviewers’ report is received both the program and dean provide responses to the report.

The Program Quality Assurance Committee (PQAC) reviews and assesses the quality of the degree programs based on the four review documents and reports on significant program strengths, opportunities for improvement and enhancement, and the implementation of recommendations.

The Implementation Plan identifies those recommendations selected for implementation, and specifies: proposed follow-up, who is responsible for leading the follow-up, and the timeline for addressing the recommendation.

During the academic year 2014-2015, the Department of Anthropology completed a review of the BA and BSc in Anthropology. Two arm’s-length external reviewers (Dr. Patricia McAnany, University of North Carolina; Dr. Holly Wardlow, University of Toronto) and one internal member (Dr. Byron Lew, Economics) were invited to review the self-study documentation and then conducted a site visit to the university on October 6-7, 2014.

The Program Quality Assurance Committee reviewed and discussed the self-study, the external reviewers’ report, and responses from the program and dean. A Final Assessment Report was developed and includes an Implementation Plan which addresses specific recommendations, proposed follow-up and implementation dates. The Program will submit an Implementation Report in January 2016.

PQAC recommends to Senate that the BA and BSc in Anthropology be approved to continue. The degree program is scheduled for a review in eight years’ time.

**SIGNIFICANT PROGRAM STRENGTHS**

The Anthropology Department is to be lauded for attracting increased numbers of students; this trend indicates the effectiveness of the program.

The program is particularly good at providing a learning experience “which is enhanced by global perspectives, experiential learning and interdisciplinary approaches.”

In sum, we find that given the constrained faculty resources, Trent’s Anthropology department is to be lauded for offering a program that, while not fully comprehensive in the sense of equal richness of offerings provided by the 4 subfields, nevertheless ensures the incorporation of linguistic anthropology material and perspectives into a number of courses. We further conclude that the diversity of archaeology courses should be maintained as that constitutes one of the internationally recognized strengths of the Department.

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT AND ENHANCEMENT**

Reviewers were impressed by the breadth and depth of courses in the Cultural stream however, noted that a number of specialized courses offered at the third year level may be more appropriate being offered at the 4000-level. Typically courses at the 3000-level are broader and provide the appropriate foundational knowledge for more specialized courses at the 4000-level. Typical third year courses might include: Anthropology of Gender, Anthropology of Religion, Medical Anthropology, Anthropology and the Environment, Anthropology of Science and Technology, etc.

Students in the cultural stream would appreciate the addition of a co-op placement.

The emerging proposal to develop a Certificate in Cultural Resource Management would provide another enhancement to the program and a link to an employment trajectory.

The reviewers recommended future directions for the degree program could include a degree program in Applied Cultural Analysis.

If there is concern about lower enrolments in cultural anthropology classes, as indicated in the 2013 Social Sciences Decanal Review, the Department might consider medical anthropology as an area for hiring. In our experience at a number of different universities, medical anthropology classes tend to attract very high enrolments

Reviewers recommended two areas of study and potential faculty hires which would possibly attract students and increase enrolment numbers: medical anthropology, and anthropology of the environment.

**COMPLETE LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

Recommendation 1: Eliminate over-reliance on CUPE instructors.

Recommendation 2: Restructure Financing of Forensics courses.

Recommendation 3: Enhance department collegiality.

Recommendation 4: Allow greater flexibility and autonomy for degree program at the Oshawa campus.

Recommendation 5: Strongly consider one or more new faculty hires.

**IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

The Program Chair, in consultation with the program/Department and the applicable Dean(s) will be responsible for submitting an Implementation Report by the due date provided. Reports should be submitted electronically to the Office of the Provost and copied to the applicable Dean(s). The Report should address recommendations that require follow-up and should include details of the proposed follow-up and status of the follow-up (i.e., in progress, completed, not attainable) in accordance with the Implementation Date provided (if any).

**Implementation Report Due: January 2016**

In some cases programs may be asked to submit an earlier report for a specific recommendation. This will be clearly indicated in the final column under *Timelines for Addressing Recommendation*.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Recommendation** | **Proposed Follow-Up**If no follow-up is recommended please clearly indicate ‘***No follow up report is required***’ and provide rationale. | **Responsibility for Leading Follow-Up \*** | **Timelines for Addressing Recommendation** |
| **Recommendation 1****Eliminate over-reliance on CUPE instructors** | Develop a staffing plan whereby course offerings are not reduced; incentivize TUFA to teach particular courses or develop course rotation to ensure TUFA coverage of courses that are key to student experience and student retention. | Program Chair in consultation with Dean | Implementation DateSeptember 2016 |
| **Recommendation 2** **Restructure Financing of Forensics courses.** | No follow up required. Restructuring of financing for Forensics courses will flow from new RCM budgeting process.  |  |   |
| **Recommendation 3****Enhance department collegiality.** | No follow up required.Department is committed to further strengthening collegiality. |  |    |
| **Recommendation 4** **Allow greater flexibility and autonomy for degree program at the Oshawa campus.** |    | Program Chair and Dean to work with Head of Durham |   |
| **Recommendation 5** **Strongly consider one or more new faculty hires.** | No follow up is required.New faculty hires will occur when resources are available. |  |   |

*Program Quality Assurance Committee*

*Completed May 2015*