

TWO (2) YEAR POST CYCLICAL PROGRAM REVIEW FOLLOW-UP REPORT

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

PROGRAM	IQAP REVIEW DATE	PREPARED BY
History BA & MA	January 18, 2021	Nathan Kozuskanich, Chair

PROGRESS OF RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION	% COMPLETE	RESPONSIBLE MEMBER/UNIT	STATUS IF NOT COMPLETED, PLEASE PROVIDE PROJECTED COMPLETION DATE
#1: Faculty Complement Department continues identify and define (cross) appointment needs and opportunities through the annual academic planning process.		Department	The Department continues to make requests for the full-time appointments identified in the IQAP Self-Study document through the normal academic planning process. The Department is also interested in engaging in a conversation with the VPAR about a cross-appointed position with Indigenous Studies (the previous VPAR envisioned a cluster hire of four positions, two of which were filled) that could serve the university's support of the TRC's 94 Calls to Action and the new strategic plan. We have a particular expertise in treaty history and land-based learning that can help the university produce graduates who are knowledgeable of their responsibilities as treaty people. We think that regularized treaty history/learning at NU would be a great benefit to the students and community, and we are ready to be a part of any movement the university would like to take in that direction.
#2 & #7: Recruitment and Marketing Department continues to collaborate with, and advise, Recruitment and Marketing on how to promote its programmes		Department with Recruitment and Marketing	The Department has long had a positive working relationship with Recruitment and Marketing. We recognize the challenges that many departments at the university face in the present fiscal context; however, to date there have been no coherent efforts to market our certificates (that info is buried on the departmental page), our OMAH program, or our grad program. The department continues to put

significant effort into marketing and recruitment, but our reach is limited. We are currently revising the MA information pamphlet (to be completed by the end of 2023 in conjunction with Marketing) and have created our own marketing materials for our certificates to distribute at recruiting events. We attend OUF every year and host specialized recruiting activities (mock lectures, campfire social, etc.) for the university's Open House program; our campfire socials have been repeatedly highlighted for their success in comments by the President in venues such as Senate.

We would like to see a more coherent effort to market our unique OMAH program (better presence on the NU website, targeted marketing materials, etc.).

<p>#3: C:WAG C- WAG falls under the Nipissing Policy on Centres and Institutes and is expected to be externally funded.</p>	<p>C-WAG</p>	<p>Drs. Earl and Connor are currently in discussion with the VPAR to explore avenues of funding for the CWAG's ongoing operational needs. Once the Centre is fully operational we are confident it will be a showcase for donors</p>
<p>#4: Seminars Department is encouraged to continue to develop and identify innovative, effective and financially sustainable models of programme delivery.</p>	<p>Department</p>	<p>The Department continues to deliver innovative and effective seminars. We understand current budgetary pressures but know that seminars are critical to delivering program outcomes, including critical thinking and high-level writing and analysis skills. We are currently discussing different delivery models to ensure that our senior undergraduate and graduate seminars can continue. For example, can 4th year seminars be offered in conjunction with some of our MA field courses?</p>
<p>#5: Certificate Programs Department is encouraged to develop both minors for degree seeking students at Nipissing and certificates for other learners. It is expected that NU will have a framework for micro-credentials in place by December 2021, and that the currently proposed SIT certificate will align with that framework</p>	<p>Department with Dean and Provost</p>	<p>Since our IQAP review, the SIT certificate and minor were finalized. They were first offered in the 2022-23 academic year. At Open Houses (most recent October 2024) students expressed strong interest in our certificates. We have created a postcard about SIT to hand out at recruiting events, and both the SIT and WAG certificates are marketed to incoming students. Until students graduate, however, we will not be able to determine uptake with the newly launched SIT certificate.</p>

We have not had a conversation about microcredentials since the departure of Dr. Pat Maher as Dean of Teaching.

<p>#6: Graduate Program Department will advise graduate students to apply through School of Graduate Studies</p>	<p>School of Graduate Studies</p>	<p>The end of the pandemic has allowed us to more actively recruit for the MA program. Although numbers were disappointing for 2023-24, this year is an anomaly compared to the average number of students per year since the program's inception. On-campus recruitment efforts for the 2024-25 academic year have yielded 20 NU students who are interested in applying. Our OMAH program was of particular interest to incoming students this year (as well as their parents) so we are optimistic that this will be a fruitful path to better MA numbers in the future.</p>
<p>#8: Alumni and Fundraising Department support and collaborate with the Nipissing University capital campaign to identify goals and strategies that support the academic mission of the University</p>	<p>Department with Advancement</p>	<p>The Department is committed to working with Alumni and Fundraising to secure endowments to support our programming and the university's academic mission. Thus far these areas have not been addressed to any significant degree. Through the work of Dr. Hilary Earl the department did secure CFI funding to address a number of concerns raised in the IQAP review process, namely, common space and support for pedagogically-specific research and teaching.</p>
<p>#9: Library Department works with the Library to advise on the best use of the resources available.</p>	<p>Department with Library</p>	<p>We continue to be in contact with the academic librarians to ensure that students and faculty have the resources necessary for their academic pursuits, or at least those that can be accommodated given the acquisitions budget.</p>
<p>#10: Administrative Support No additional administrative staff will be hired for the Department at this time.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Given that no administrative staff will be hired, we ask that the university seriously consider our yearly request for a NUWORK student to serve as a departmental assistant. Our request was denied for the 2023-24 academic year. In past years our departmental assistant has served a key role in developing and maintaining our social media presence, helping organize recruiting and departmental events, and performing basic administrative tasks.</p>
<p>#11: Common Rooms No departmental common rooms can be allocated at this time</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>The CWAG now provides common space for the department.</p>

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS TO DATE

The Department has made progress on all of the recommendations listed here, with the exception of #8. Given that most of these recommendations deal with issues that are part of the regular academic planning process, the Department will continue to address them in the future. We understand the pressures that the university faces and engage in regular conversations as a department about how to meet these challenges in a way that does not compromise the academic integrity of our degree programs.

LIST OF ACTION ITEMS LEADING UP TO NEXT REVIEW

The Department has struck two committees to explore how we deliver our undergraduate and graduate degree programs to determine if any (major) modifications are needed. We have also struck a Post Baccalaureate committee to explore offering a diploma in Societies in Transition for international students who wish to obtain additional qualifications that will enable them to pursue employment in the non-profit, public service, and development sectors or to pursue graduate studies in Canada. This program will provide students with an existing background in legal, environmental, sustainability or development studies an interdisciplinary pathway to extend their training in Canada.

CONCLUSIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS/NEXT STEPS – PLEASE ADD CONCLUDING SUMMARY REGARDING NEXT STEPS

Now that the CWAG is becoming operational the Department has begun the process of making this space the central hub of the History program, both in terms of the student experience but also community/alumni relations and fundraising. We are confident that the CWAG will be an effective focal point for our program—a welcoming space for current students to interact with each other and faculty while completing coursework and/or research; an outward-facing venue to engage the larger community; and a tangible facility that alumni and other donors can support financially. We will need the support of Recruiting, Marketing, and the Alumni Office to make this a reality.

We recognize that all of this is only possible if we have a degree program that attracts students. The issues facing the Department are not unique, but that does not negate the need for self-reflection and revision. We will continue to assess our programs' structures and content as we plan for the future.