

University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process (UTQAP) Cyclical Review: Final Assessment Report and Implementation Plan

Program Reviewed:	Sexual Diversity Studies, B.A., (Hons.): Specialist, Major and Minor
Unit Reviewed:	Mark S. Bonham Centre for Sexual Diversity Studies (housed in University College)
Commissioning Officer:	Dean, Faculty of Arts & Science
Reviewers:	 Dr. Carolyn Dinshaw, Julius Silver, Roslyn S. Silver, and Enid Silver Winslow Professor of Social and Cultural Analysis and English, New York University Dr. Marc Stein, Jamie and Phyllis Pasker Professor of History, San Francisco State University Dr. Susan Stryker, Associate Professor of Gender and Women's Studies, University of Arizona
Date of review visit:	April 7, 2017
Date reported to AP&P:	November 2, 2017

Unless otherwise noted, all bulleted comments apply to all programs reviewed.

1 Outcome

• The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs (AP&P) concluded that the Decanal response adequately addressed the review recommendations.

2 Significant Program Strengths

- Superb faculty who are exceptional teachers and have had an important impact on the growth and development of the field
- Impressive undergraduate program with increased enrolment, innovative courses within an interdisciplinary curriculum, and service-learning opportunities

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- Broad and deep expertise, drawing on faculty from academic units in multiple divisions and the University of Toronto Libraries
- Publications and projects have appeared in high-quality, influential scholarly and popular venues
- Bonham Centre's 2014 World Pride Human rights Conference and other conferences contribute to its high research profile

3 Opportunities for Program Enhancement

The reviewers recommended that the following be considered:

- Conducting undergraduate curriculum revisions, including to introductory and elective course requirements, and increasing attention to racial/ethnic diversity, including non LGBT sexualities, as well as transnational and multiracial dimensions of sexualities
- Offering professional training to address instructors' concerns with teaching sensitive and contentious social issues
- Increasing the faculty complement through new hires, while attending to racial/ethnic diversity, and increasing contributions from cognate units to address faculty-student interaction, currency of the curriculum and research, and administrative support
- Diversifying funding strategies and increasing permanent staff
- Re-activating the Curriculum Subcommittee of the Steering Committee to support regular curriculum review and collaboration and coordination across the program
- Developing relationships with cognate programs and units on the three campuses, including with the Women and Gender Studies Institute, as well as with other universities and organizations
- Discussing the unit's EDU classification

4 Implementation Plan

The Dean undertook in consultation with the Centre to support the following changes:

- Immediate Term (6 months)
 - Conducting undergraduate curriculum revisions
 - SDS will undertake a curriculum review through the Curriculum Subcommittee of the Steering Committee, including diversifying of core courses of the SDS program, reconsidering the sequencing of required and optional courses, and further augmenting attention to racial/ethnic and transnational issues
 - The Curriculum Subcommittee will consider the possibility of a first year course
 - Offering professional training to address instructors' concerns with teaching sensitive and contentious social issues
 - SDS will arrange a series of workshops for instructors, designed to address teaching dynamics in sensitive and contentious social issues, in the 2017-2018 academic year. Based on participant feedback, SDS will seek to provide similar learning opportunities on an ongoing basis.
 - o Re-activating the Curriculum Subcommittee

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- SDS will reactivate the Curriculum Subcommittee immediately, to undertake this curricular review. SDS is appointing a new undergraduate Director, whose mandate will include leading this review.
- o Developing relationships with cognate programs and units
 - SDS will work with FAS to develop closer relationships with cognate units including history, anthropology, and geography
 - SDS will join the Sexuality Studies Association and encourage greater participation in its annual events
 - SDS will continue to explore possibilities of additional cross listed courses with the WGSI, secured access for students registered in one or the other programs, and future collaborations
 - SDS will remain focused on developing curricular opportunities and collaborations with units on the St. George campus, while remaining open to developing relationships with faculty located on the UTM and UTSC campuses
- Discussing the unit's EDU classification
 - The SDS Director will initiate a discussion of the unit's EDU classification with the Steering Committee
- Medium Term (1-2 years)
 - o Conducting undergraduate curriculum revisions
 - FAS will work with SDS to build on relationships with other academic units to diversify offerings in core areas. SDS will seek governance approval of any curricular changes to program requirements.
 - o Increasing the faculty complement
 - The Faculty Appointments Committee will consider requests in the areas of critical race studies and in trans studies
 - The Dean's office will work with SDS to develop stronger teaching relationships with cognate units
 - Diversifying funding strategies and increasing permanent staff
 - The Faculty significantly increased the 'base' funding of the Centre. Annually adjusted OTO allocations will continue, as is the practice across the Faculty.
 - The Deans Office will continue to monitor the needs of the program over time and work with SDS to maintain a stable funding model
 - Discussing the unit's EDU classification
 - The next SDS Director, yet to be appointed, will undertake a more systematic consultation and review of the advantages and disadvantages of reclassification of the unit's EDU status

The Dean's Office will follow up annually with the unit to assess progress.

5 Executive Summary

The reviewers identified the programs' strengths as the superb faculty who are exceptional teachers with important impact on the field; impressive undergraduate program with increased enrolment, innovative courses within an interdisciplinary curriculum, and service-learning opportunities; broad and deep expertise, drawing on faculty from academic units in multiple divisions and the University of Toronto Libraries; publications and projects that have appeared in

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high-quality, influential scholarly and popular venues; and the Bonham Centre's 2014 World Pride Human rights Conference and other conferences which contribute to its high research profile. The reviewers recommended that the following issues be addressed: conducting undergraduate curriculum revisions; offering professional training to address instructors' concerns with teaching sensitive and contentious social issues; increasing the faculty complement through new hires, while attending to racial/ethnic diversity, and increasing contributions from cognate units; diversifying funding strategies and increasing permanent staff; re-activating the Curriculum Subcommittee of the Steering Committee to support regular curriculum review and collaboration and coordination across the program; developing relationships with cognate programs and units on the three campuses; and discussing the unit's EDU classification. SDS will undertake a curriculum review through the Curriculum Subcommittee of the Steering Committee, which will consider the possibility of a first year course. SDS will arrange a series of workshops for instructors, designed to address teaching dynamics in sensitive and contentious social issues, in the 2017-2018 academic year. SDS will work with FAS to develop closer relationships with cognate units including history, anthropology, geography, and WGSI. The SDS Director will initiate a discussion of the unit's EDU classification with the Steering Committee. The Faculty Appointments Committee will consider requests in the areas of critical race studies and in trans studies. The Faculty significantly increased the 'base' funding of the Centre. The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs (AP&P) concluded that the Decanal response adequately addressed the review recommendations.