



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

Programs Reviewed:	Christianity and Culture, B.A., Hons.: Specialist, Major, Minor Minor in Christianity and Education Review of programs only (Programs housed in St. Michael's College)
Division/Unit in which programs are housed:	Faculty of Arts & Science
Commissioning Officer:	Dean, Faculty of Arts & Science
Reviewers (Name, Affiliation):	1. Professor Diane Apostolos-Cappadona, Catholic Studies and Women's & Gender Studies Programs, Georgetown University 2. Professor Anne Marie Dalton, Religious Studies, St. Mary's University
Date of review visit:	October 2-3, 2014
Date reported to AP&P:	March 31, 2015

1 Outcome

The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs (AP&P) requested a follow up report on curriculum renewal, faculty complement, student recruitment, and the outcome of the Program retreat(s). The follow-up report will be considered by the AP&P at the Cycle 5 meeting in 2015-16.

2 Significant Program Strengths

- Articulate students of high quality
- Emphasis in all programs on development of transferable skills such as research and critical thinking

- Faculty and student involvement in public and charitable outreach
- History of leadership in community-based learning and international immersion experience
- Excellent quality of faculty teaching and research
- Breadth and depth of faculty scholarship in Christianity

3 Opportunities for Program Enhancement

The reviewers recommended that the following be considered:

- Better aligning the Program with others in North America and Europe through curricular changes
- Enabling greater focus on the Major program and suspending the Specialist
- Supporting Program objectives by re-examining course offerings
- Increasing student enrolment and expanding student outreach opportunities
- Ensuring that the size and mix of faculty is able to support the Program's future directions
- Strengthening communications among the Program, the Faculty of Arts and Science (FAS), and St. Michael's College

4 Implementation Plan

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

- Immediate Term (6 months)
 - Making curricular changes
 - The Principal of St. Michael's College, in consultation with the FAS Dean's Office, will undertake a curriculum renewal process.
 - The Principal will sponsor one or more retreats for faculty to discuss the Program's identity, taking into consideration FAS degree objectives and learning outcomes.
 - Focusing more on the Major program
 - The Program will focus its attention and resources on strengthening the Major and Minor programs and will suspend the Specialist for 2015-16.
 - Re-examining course offerings
 - The Program will examine course offerings during the curriculum renewal process in consultation with the FAS.
 - Increasing student enrolment
 - The Program will consult with the FAS Dean's Office regarding options for increasing enrolment.
 - Strengthening communications among key stakeholders
 - The Principal will work with the FAS to increase communication regarding Program resources.
- Medium Term (1-2 years)
 - Increasing student enrolment
 - The Program will consider the creation of a new Major in Christianity and Education.
 - Re-building the faculty complement to support future directions
 - The Principal will consider, as one possible option, the creation of post-doctoral fellowships in the Program, in consultation with the FAS.

- Longer Term (3-5 years)
 - Re-building the faculty complement to support future directions
 - The Program will submit requests for appointments for 2017-18 to the FAS Appointment Committee.

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

5 Executive Summary

The reviewers identified the programs' strengths as the high quality of students; their development of transferable skills; community outreach; and faculty scholarship in Christianity. The reviewers recommended that the following issues be addressed: making curricular changes; suspending the Specialist; re-examining course offerings; increasing student enrolment; re-building the faculty complement; and strengthening communications among the Program, the Faculty of Arts and Science (FAS), and St. Michael's College. The Principal of St. Michael's College, in consultation with the FAS Dean's Office, will undertake a curriculum renewal process, during which course offerings will be reviewed. The Program will suspend the Specialist for 2015-16 and will strengthen its other programs. It will also consider creating a Major in Christianity and Education as a means of increasing student enrolment. To re-build the faculty complement to support future directions, the Program and FAS Dean's Office will discuss future faculty appointments. The Principal will work with the FAS to increase communication regarding Program resources. The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs (AP&P) requested a follow-up report on curriculum renewal, faculty complement, student recruitment, and the outcome of the Program retreat(s). The follow-up report will be considered by the AP&P at the Cycle 5 meeting in 2015-16.