

Systematic Program Review

Name of Unit: Department of History and Philosophy
Reporting Official: Michael Faubion, Chair

Item 1

Is your program (undergraduate, master's or doctoral program, academic support unit, service unit, center, administrative/staff department/unit) currently reviewed on a regular basis (e.g., annually, biennially, every 5 years)? Examples of systematic review include, but are not limited to: academic program review, internal audits, external accreditation, external review by a consultant, peer review, etc.

Yes No

If "YES", go to Item 2. If "NO", check that box and return form to OIRE.

Item 2

Type an "X" next to the type(s) of program review that applies to your unit, the date of your last review and the date of the next expected review:

	Date of last review	Date of next review
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> academic program review	_Fall 2004_	_Fall 2009_
<input type="checkbox"/> internal audit	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> external accrediting agency	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> external consultant	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> peer review	_____	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: <input type="checkbox"/> Annual Planning and Assessment	_Each year_	_____

Item 3

Describe how your unit has used/is using the findings/recommendations from its last review to improve the effectiveness of the unit. Include references to goals or objectives listed in recent planning documents, and examples of the use of assessment to improve your programs/services.

Recommendations from our annual reviews, student assessments, and the academic program review from Fall 2004 have been integrated into our strategic plans. Also included are changes made in processes as a result of the 2004 review. These recommendations are numerous but can be broadly characterized in a number of changes instituted by the Department or changes we are in the process of developing. They include:

- **Curriculum Review-** The department has started a review of the content of its curriculum and the catalog of course offerings. This has led to greater alignment of courses with state objectives for core curriculum, national standards within the disciplines, and TEKS requirements for the social studies degree. The department has also begun to develop new courses to meet student needs and redesign the graduate curriculum to enhance research training for graduate students. This activity has resulted in better TExES scores and more student interest and attendance in graduate school.
- **Student Advising-** The department has reviewed its advisement process and written an advisors handbook to help with student advisement. This document was just handed out to faculty this fall.
- **Faculty Research-** The department has sought to enhance faculty research by

promoting release time for research faculty, encouraging new faculty to establish a research agenda in writing, and using travel money to help faculty go to archives to conduct research. Faculty research productivity is up by more than 10% over 2004.

- **Outreach-** The department continues to participate and has added other venues to reach out to the community. These activities include Women's History Day, National History Day Competition, Sponsoring the Rondel Davidson Lecture Series, and the Philosophy Movie Series.
- **Use of Technology-** The department faculty have increased their use of technology to deliver information to the students, especially in the use of WebCT and multimedia presentations in the classroom. There has been a 150% increase in faculty using these items over 2004.