

**Senate Question Period**  
October 30, 2012

Submitted by Senator Jones

**2. Question regarding the teaching of communication skills and discipline-specific training in writing**

The Academic Plan approved by Senate almost a year ago recommends that Queen's "give communication skills priority, monitor them, foster their early enhancement, and be prepared to remediate them where necessary." It also affirms that "university students need to learn not just general communication skills but also the discursive / communicative practices appropriate to their specializations"--i.e., that they require "discipline-specific training" in writing. These recommendations were based on a broad consultative process that found strong support for disciplinary training in writing. Could the Provost please inform Senate of any plans that the University has for implementing these recommendations?