

Cyclical Program Review of French Studies

2021-2022 CPR Bridging Report

Date: 16 August 2021

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent delays to the cyclical program review (CPR) process, programs are being asked to provide an update on the final assessment report and implementation plan of their previous CPR cycle.

The plan and one year progress report below was agreed to by the Teaching and Learning Office, Deans of the Faculty of Arts and Science and Graduate Studies, and the Vice-Provost in February 2015. The Deans are responsible for monitoring the implementation plan.

Please complete the table below to report on any progress made. Add further explanation if necessary in the *additional notes* section.

Please complete this report and return it to qugap@queensu.ca by **Friday September 17th, 2021**. The Associate Vice Principal (Teaching and Learning) will review this progress report. It will then be appended to the program's delayed CPR and filed in the Office of the Provost and Vice-Principal (Academic). Please note that monitoring reports will be posted on the university's website.

Follow-up and Bridge to the Next CPR

Recommendation	Proposed Follow-up	One Year Follow Up	Please indicate whether the implementation was completed, and provide a brief description and any recent updates on initiatives
<p>1. As identified in the Review Team Report and acknowledged in all three internal responses, the SCPRC recommends the development of a “business plan” over the next two (2) years. The business plan must include clearly articulated goals and an implementation strategy. Drafting of the business plan must be a collaborative exercise between the Department, the Faculty of Arts and Science, and the School of Graduate Studies.</p>	<p>Preparation of a “business plan” that clearly articulates the Department and the Faculty of Arts and Science and the School of Graduate Studies’ goals and priorities. The “plan” must be operational and strategic.</p>	<p><i>The University is currently in the process of implementing its new budget model whose implications for individual departments had until now remained relatively unknown. Because of this, it has not been realistic for the Department of French Studies to prepare a business plan. Forecasting ahead, the Department has however undertaken the complete overhaul of its undergraduate curriculum. The revised curriculum, which will be implemented in fall 2015, reflects the department’s current faculty complement’s ability to deliver both service and concentrator courses, to comport with the new activity-based budget. Its objective is to equip students with a fluency in the French language, inculcate critical reasoning, writing and reading skills, enable students to be culturally literate in regards to the francophone world and ensure that faculty research and undergraduate learning come together in the classroom. It relies on expanding the on-line service teaching of French language courses, which have been very successful in generating revenue for the department. As part of the</i></p>	<p>In 2015, with the implementation of the activity-based budget, the Department of French Studies submitted to FAS a Five-Year Financial Plan, with the aim of achieving a positive variance. We succeeded to do so in 2017-18, thanks to some retirements and a raise of revenue through online teaching.</p> <p>In terms of strategic planning, we achieved some our obligations through a major revision of our undergraduate program, adopted in 2015. Our undergraduate program has now clear learning outcomes and clear paths between major, medial and minor. After a couple of difficult years in terms of enrollments, we are seeing a slight increase, especially in major.</p> <p>The strategic planning was then expanded, leading to the preparation of a five-year strategic plan (2018-2023), adopted in 2018 and sent to the Dean of FAS. This plan includes research and teaching objectives, and commitments to the community outside the university.</p> <p>Clarification (February 2022) The Financial Plan proposed in 2015 was prepared with the activity-based budget model in mind. The Department of French Studies was then in a precarious situation, with a negative variance of more of \$ 400 k, and a deficit of faculty members consecutive to several retirements. We respected the Plan, which consisted in developing a full range of online courses, including the Online Certificate French for Professionals (4 new online courses).</p> <p>In the meantime, we also reduce our course offering by eliminating some core course sections. But more importantly for our unit, we were successful in securing a QNS in Francophone Indigenous literature. We also hired a new faculty member in contemporary French literature in 2018, at the same time than achieving a positive variance in our budget. We followed up with a comprehensive strategic plan addressing faculty renewal, curriculum diversification and research intensification. We had productive discussions with Dean Barbara Crow and Vice-Dean Gordon Smith on the plan and continue its implementation. We are currently in the process of hiring in the field of Black Decolonial Feminism, diversifying our curriculum further. The plan does not include budgetary considerations. But it is worth noting that the principles of the 2015 Business Plan still apply, with new online courses developed for the certificate and for our main program.</p>

		<i>department's plan to enhance and sustain the quality of its programs, cultivate its research strengths, and bring new life into the department as a whole, it has been actively working with LLCU to create a joint interdisciplinary graduate program. Meetings to this effect have been ongoing throughout the past year at the individual department level, between the two departments and in consultation with the Faculty of Arts and Science and the School of Graduate Studies.</i>	In short, I am of the opinion that the financial plan (2015) and the strategic plan (2018) address and implement the SCPRC recommendation, first with operational goals, than with strategic ones, both contributing to the excellent performance of our unit in recent years.
2. The SCPRC recommends that the Department of French Studies, in conjunction with the Centre for Teaching and Learning, complete a curriculum review of all its course offerings.	A curriculum mapping of all courses to DLEs, LOs and other indicators of achievement.	<i>The restructuring of the department's undergraduate curriculum, which was officially approved by the Faculty of Arts and Science's curriculum committee, included a review of the learning outcomes of all course offerings in consultation with the Centre for Teaching and Learning. The department has not undertaken a review of the curriculum at the graduate level because the focus has been instead on creating a new collaborative graduate program.</i>	Our new undergraduate program was implemented in 2015-2016, with clear learning outcomes for its core courses. Since then, we worked some readjustments, switching some 2 nd year and 3 rd year courses, and created some new option courses. Our latest hirings in Indigenous French literature and Contemporary French literature contributed to diversify our curriculum, which is still in progress with a new hiring for 2022-23 in Black Decolonial Feminism. We also created a new online certificate: French for Professionals, in collaboration with ASO. Through the current cyclical review, we review all the program LOs and consult students with a 1 st Survey and an Exit Survey. We suspended enrollment in our graduate program back in 2015 and worked on a joint graduate program with LLCU. Since FAS had some concerns in term of fiscal sustainability, we postponed this new program for the time being and chose to affiliate individually with the graduate program of Cultural Studies, with some of our faculty teaching and supervising students in Cultural Studies.

Additional Comments:

Please identify any new initiatives that would be part of the upcoming CPR.

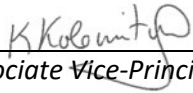
Signatures:



Dean, Faculty of Arts and Science
Bill Nelson, Associate Dean (Teaching and Learning)



Dean, School of Graduate Studies (if applicable)



Associate Vice-Principal (Teaching and Learning)

Approved by the Senate Cyclical Program Review Committee:

November 19, 2021

Date

November 29, 2021

Date

December 14, 2021

Date

March 2, 2022

Date