




COLLEGE OF
Letters & Science
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

June 14, 2019

TO: Jocelyn Milner, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

FROM: Elaine M. Klein, Associate Dean for Academic Planning 
John Karl Scholz, Dean

RE: L&S Annual Report on Program Review, Low Award Producing Programs

Attachments: Annotated List of 2018-19 Program Reviews Completed, In Progress, and To Be Charged; Spreadsheet, Report of Low-Award Programs

Thank you for the opportunity to provide an update on the status of academic program reviews completed, under way, or planned in the College of Letters & Science.

A, B, C: The annotated lists of completed and pending reviews are attached (Tables A and B). We have also studied the list of reviews to be charged (Table C), as well as the request formally to charge programs that received a “soft” charge last year. We should have no difficulty meeting the October 1, 2019 deadline to begin these reviews.

D. Status reports on two academic programs due in Fall 2019:

- PhD Art History, Option: Architectural History – L&S will submit a request to discontinue this small program, as work in this field can be completed within the standard Art History doctoral program. The faculty have expressed an interest in continuing the collaboration with UW-Milwaukee’s School of Architecture; however, the difficulty of sharing access to courses across UW System campuses continues to be a significant barrier to collaboration for this faculty. We plan to continue to try to lower those barriers.
- Certificate in Folklore – Two programs in Folklore were moved from the Department of Comparative Literature and Folklore Studies – which is being restructured – to the Department of German, Nordic, Slavic. That move is effective Fall 2019, and L&S convened an implementation meeting to discuss with GNS program administration and future actions. A proposal to reopen the programs will be submitted in early Fall 2019.

These program actions, when taken, should address the reporting requirement.

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E. The request for information about low-degree producing programs, reflecting recent changes in UW System policy, affords us an opportunity to note L&S' careful stewardship with respect to low-award programs. Working in the context of current certificate and prior degree/major policy on low-award programs, L&S has discontinued several certificates, majors, and sub-programs that were moribund, conferred too few awards, or that had been rendered obsolete over time. Program reviews include discussion of curricular capacity to offer programs, as well as on administrative processes (including staffing, communication, or resource gaps), technological problems, curricular changes, etc. that may impede programs' ability to thrive. This helps identify programs to be restructured, while others may simply be discontinued. Through these means, in recent years, L&S has initiated and implemented eight program discontinuations, updated or reconfigured academic departments (e.g., African Cultural Studies, Classics and Ancient Near Eastern Studies, History of Science), and approved revisions to program requirements to better align curriculum with faculty profile and student interests. And finally, when planning a new program in the current policy and resource environment, L&S asks probing questions about whether the program will be of sufficient interest to generate enrollments and produce awards.

In addition, L&S considers the unique strengths and responsibilities of an institution like UW-Madison. A world-class research institution should provide an array of programs commensurate with a remarkable faculty profile, to serve the equally remarkable, talented students who come to this university to benefit from its intellectual and scholarly diversity. For example, in reviewing the list of programs identified as "low-award" under the new UW System Administration criteria, we find several "less commonly taught languages" that were previously exempt from the low-award policy. That exemption acknowledged the important role universities play in assuring access to the variety of languages needed not only for scholarship that support education about and preservation of cultural heritage, but also for inter-cultural communication in the communities of the world, and in commerce, polity, and strategic defense.

We have provided responses concerning each of the L&S programs identified as low-award programs; the spreadsheet appears as Attachment D.

Copies:

Cal Bergman, Associate Dean for Student Academic Affairs, L&S
Greg Downey, Associate Dean for Social Science, L&S
Gloria Mari-Beffa, Associate Dean for the Natural and Mathematical Sciences, L&S
James Montgomery, Associate Dean for Fiscal Initiatives, L&S
Jennifer Noyes, Associate Dean for Operations and Staff
Parmesh Ramanathan, Associate Dean, Graduate School
Emily Reynolds, Academic Planning Specialist, Graduate School
Eric Wilcots, Deputy Dean, L&S
Susan Zaeske, Associate Dean for the Arts and Humanities

Table A. Completed Reviews for 2018-19– note indicates most recent status information

Asian Studies	BA/BS	Completed – program to be discontinued.
Chinese Professional Communications	Ugrad CERT	Completed – program will continue
Classical & Ancient Near Eastern Studies	MA, PhD	Completed – program will continue
Comparative Literature and Folklore Studies	BA/BS, MS, PhD	Completed – admissions to all programs suspended pending department restructuring
Conservation Biology	BA/BS	Completed – program will continue
Folklore	Ugrad CERT	Completed – admissions suspended pending department restructuring; expected to be reformatted and reopened
Freshwater and Marine Science	MS, PhD	Completed – program will continue
International Public Affairs	MIPA	Completed – program will continue
International Politics and Practice	Capstone	Completed – program discontinued
Japanese Professional Communications	Ugrad CERT	Completed – program will continue
Jewish Studies	BA/BS	Completed – program will continue; program still low degree status
Latin American, Caribbean, and Iberian Studies, BA/BS	BA/BS	Completed – program discontinued INCORRECT – PROGRAM WILL CONTINUE APIR CONFIRMATION OF ERROR 6/6/2019
Latin American, Caribbean, and Iberian Studies, MA	MA	Completed – program will continue; program still low degree status
Public Affairs	MPA	Completed – program will continue
Southeast Asian Studies	Grad CERT	Completed – program discontinued
Statistics including named option Biostatistics including named option Data Science	BA/BS, MS, PhD	Completed – programs will continue
Transdisciplinary Study of Visual Cultures	Grad CERT	Completed – program will continue; report due by Jan 1 2020 to resolve many issues including no certificates ever awarded.

Please note the L&S also completed a follow-up review of the Undergraduate Certificate in Chican@ and Latin@ studies, and recommended program continuation and that the next review should take place on the usual schedule.

Table B. Reviews Pending and In Progress – note indicates most recent status information from L&S

African Studies	Grad CERT	Due 2015-16; L&S/IRIS joint review; review delayed until 2016-17; review committee report due 10-9-18 (low-award) Due to L&S in March 2019 Review is overdue. IRIS SUBMITTED REVIEW WITHOUT REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT. RETURNED BY L&S TO THE INTERNATIONAL DIVISION. TID HAS
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		CONVENED REVIEW COMMITTEE; GFEC MEMBER APPOINTED 6/14/2019.
Biology	BA/BS	CALS/L&S charged review; self-study due to deans office 2-1-19; Review due to be finalized by end of 2019-20 academic year. SELF STUDY RECEIVED AS SCHEDULED. COMMITTEE IS BEING CONVENED IN CONSULTATION WITH CALS.
Plant Biology named option, associated with Biology	Named Opt	First 5-year review due 2019-20; self-study due 2-1-19 SELF STUDY RECEIVED AS SCHEDULED. COMMITTEE IS BEING CONVENED IN CONSULTATION WITH CALS.
Communication Sciences and Disorders	BA/BS, MS, PhD	Due 2019-20; self-study due 1-14-19, review committee charged 4/2019 DUE TO LATE CHARGE, REVIEW COMMITTEE WORK POSTPONED TO FALL 2019. REVIEW WILL BE COMPLETED SPRING 2020.
Communication Sciences and Disorders	Capstone	Due 2019-20; self-study due 1-14-19, review committee charged 4/2019 REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT COMPLETE APC DISCUSSION SCHEDULED SEPT 2019.
Computer Sciences for Professionals	Capstone	Five year review due by end of 2018-19; self-study charged Jan 2019 Review is overdue. SELF-STUDY RECEIVED AS REQUESTED. REVIEW COMMITTEE IS BEING CONVENED, WITH REQUEST TO EXPEDITE REPORT FOR APC DISCUSSION IN FALL 2019.
Creative Writing	MFA	Due 2017-18; delayed; self-study completed and L&S charged review committee 1/2019 Review is overdue. L&S PORTION OF REVIEW IS COMPLETE. (Memo sent 6/14/2019)
Economics	BA/BS, MS, PhD	Due 2020-21; "soft" charge by L&S in Fall 2018; due for formal charge FORMAL CHARGE TO BE ISSUED SUMMER 2019.
Economics – Option Graduate Foundations	Masters	Five-year review due by end of 2018-19; self-study under review. Review is overdue. SELF-STUDY RECEIVED AS REQUESTED. REVIEW COMMITTEE IS BEING CONVENED. GFEC MEMBER ASSIGNED 6/13/2019.
European Studies at the Graduate Level	Grad CERT	Due 2015-16; L&S/IRIS joint review; delayed to 2016-17; review committee report due to L&S 10-9-17 (low-award); to be redone and due to L&S 3/2019

		Review is overdue. PROGRAM HAS BEEN DISCONTINUED.
English	BA/BS, MA, PhD	Due 2020-21; "soft" charge by L&S in Fall 2018; due for formal charge FORMAL CHARGE TO BE ISSUED SUMMER 2019.
French	Ugrad CERT	First 5-year review due 2019-20; due to be charged CHARGE TO CONDUCT REVIEW SENT IN OCTOBER 2018; Reminder sent June 2019
Geology and Geophysics	BA/BS	Due 2020-21; "soft" charge by L&S in Fall 2018; due for formal charge FORMAL CHARGE TO BE ISSUED SUMMER 2019.
Geoscience	MS, PhD	Due 2020-21; "soft" charge by L&S in Fall 2018; due for formal charge FORMAL CHARGE TO BE ISSUED SUMMER 2019.
Linguistics	BA/BS, MA, PhD	Due 2019-20; self-study completed: Feb 2019 L&S formed review committee CHARGE TO REVIEW COMMITTEE UNDER WAY.
Religious Studies	BA/BS	Due 2018-19; self-study submitted; L&S reported discussing review in Feb 2019 Review is overdue. PROGRAM REVIEW COMPLETE; APIR CONFIRMATION 6/12/2019.
Russian, East European, and Central Asian Studies at the Graduate Level	Grad CERT	Due 2015-16; L&S/IRIS joint review; delayed to 2016-17; successive delays due to do-over requirement Review is overdue IRIS SUBMITTED REVIEW WITHOUT REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT. RETURNED BY L&S TO THE INTERNATIONAL DIVISION. TID HAS CONVENED REVIEW COMMITTEE; GFEC MEMBER APPOINTED 6/14/2019.
Russian, East European, and Central Asian Studies	MA	Due 2015-16; L&S/IRIS joint review; review delayed until 2016-17; successive delays due to do-over requirement Review is overdue IRIS SUBMITTED REVIEW WITHOUT REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT. RETURNED BY L&S TO THE INTERNATIONAL DIVISION. TID HAS CONVENED REVIEW COMMITTEE; GFEC MEMBER APPOINTED 6/14/2019.
Second Language Acquisition	PhD	Due 2019-20; initiated 2017-18; review ongoing. L&S PORTION OF REVIEW IS COMPLETE. (Memo sent 6/14/2019)
Southeast Asian Studies	MA	Due 2015-16; L&S/IRIS joint review; delayed to 2016-17; successive delays due to do-over requirement

		Review is overdue IRIS SUBMITTED REVIEW WITHOUT REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT. RETURNED BY L&S TO THE INTERNATIONAL DIVISION. TID HAS CONVENED REVIEW COMMITTEE; GFEC MEMBER APPOINTED 6/14/2019.
Political Science	BA/BS, MA, PhD	Due 2020-21; "soft" charge by L&S in Fall 2018; due for formal charge FORMAL CHARGE TO BE ISSUED SUMMER 2019.

Table C. Reviews to be charged by October 1 2019

Interdisciplinary Theatre Studies	MA, PhD	Due 2021-22 "SOFT" CHARGE WILL BE ISSUED SUMMER 2019.
Italian Certificate	Ugrd Cert	Due 2020-21 – first five-year review THIS REVIEW TO BE CONVENED SUMMER 2019
Mass Communications	PhD	Due 2021-22; in collaboration with CALS (shared program) WE WILL CONSULT WITH CALS IN SUMMER 2019 ABOUT CONVENING THIS REVIEW.

Attachment D. Excel Spreadsheet, 2018-19 Monitoring Low Producing Programs-MSN

2018-19 MONITORING LOW PRODUCING PROGRAMS

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On November 2, 2018, my office provided data to your institution on academic programs that do not meet the thresholds of the current established criteria in SYS 102, Section 6.3.

	<p>The data did not include suspended programs.</p> <p>UW System Collaborative (HLC Consortial) programs were rolled into one program.</p> <p>Graduate level programs that contain non-admitting masters were not included.</p> <p>Doctoral Ph.D. programs were not included because they are monitored at the institution level.</p>

Please report on the outcome of your institution's monitoring decision.

Academic Program Name	Degree Level	Outcome of Program Monitoring (Collaboration, Elimination*, Minor, Redirect*, Suspension*, Other)	If continuing a program, provide justification including adoption of new strategies, financial support, monitoring metrics, and governance oversight.
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* Please report these actions via wisconsin.edu/program-planning/ppram-form/.

AFRICAN CULTURAL STUDIES	Bachelor's	African Languages and Literature program review completed in 2016; L&S APC enthusiastically supports this excellent and distinctive program and approve continuation.	Following review, changes in program name and focus to de-emphasize language study and include culture and other topics were made to attract more students. These changes were implemented for students admitted in Fall 2018; they would not yet have had an impact on awards conferred. The program also plans to propose pathways via named options to allow students to pursue focused language study in Arabic and Swahili, which will likely increase enrollments and awards.
CLASSICS	Bachelor's	Undergraduate program reviews completed Spring 2017, conducted after departmental and programmatic reorganization. Program was approved to continue.	Program requirements have been updated to provide more non-language entry points into the program. The department has created attractive large enrollment courses to attract new majors via engaging topics; they have also developed outreach programs to encourage study of Latin before college, to combat declining interest in language study in general, and decline in high school language instruction in Latin in particular.
ENGINEERING PHYSICS	Bachelor's		

INDIVIDUAL MAJOR	Bachelor's	L&S Curriculum Committee recommends continuation of program.	The Individual Major provides an opportunity for (rare) students to combine eclectic interests under the supervision of a faculty committee coordinated by L&S Student Academic Affairs and composed of experts who can offer advice and ensure that the student has a coherent learning experience. On rare occasions, the program is used to facilitate successful graduation by students whose programs have been discontinued. Each academic program is unique, and the program is intended to remain small.
JEWISH STUDIES	Bachelor's	Review completed Spring 2019; program recommended for continuation.	Several recommendations were made for program changes (e.g., discontinue moribund option, reduce language requirements, expand acceptable languages to meet requirements, etc.) Program changes will be proposed in 2019-20, for implementation in Fall 2020.
LATIN	Bachelor's	CANES academic programs reviews completed in Spring 2017; L&S APC approved continuation of the program.	Faculty have created attractive large enrollment courses to attract new majors via engaging topics; nevertheless, enrollments suffer due to falling interest in language study, including a decline in high school language instruction in latin.
NAVAL SCIENCE	Bachelor's		
POLISH	Bachelor's	Program was last reviewed in 2016, during restructuring that created the Department of German, Nordic, Slavic. Program was included in general recommendation for all programs to continue.	This small language program previously met the low-award threshold expected for less-commonly taught/taken languages and has, over the years, increased enrollments by with innovative curriculum and improved administrative processes. The department of German, Nordic, Slavic has hired a new faculty member who is expected to adapt curriculum to include non-language-based cultural study to increase enrollments and awards. Possible program action: rename to "Polish Studies" to reflect broader cultural study.
PORTUGUESE	Bachelor's	Spanish & Portuguese was last reviewed in 2014; at that time, L&S APC approved a motion to allow the programs to continue, while offering direction about several administrative improvements needed to support the programs, faculty, and staff.	Department is in administrative receivership. An external review will be convened, with continuation of the program in Portuguese one of the issues to be considered by the committee.

POULTRY SCIENCE	Bachelor's		Eliminated Fall 2019
AFRO-AMERICAN STUDIES	Master's	Program was last reviewed in 2014; all programs were allowed to continue.	This program serves as an important "bridge" to doctoral study in History and English; graduates also go on to doctoral study at other institutions. Although the program is small, it provides an needed service for the institution. L&S is supportive of the program's efforts to expand access to resources to support students in it.
AGRONOMY	Master's		
ART HISTORY	Master's	Program review completed in Spring 2015, with update provided in Fall 2015. At time of last review, extended time to degree for doctoral program was noted as an concern.	Doctoral program was streamlined to eliminate mandatory completion of MA; this reduced time to degree, but also reduced the number of MA awards. MA is still used as an admitting program for students who are not prepared to commit to doctoral study, as well as for students pursuing MA training for professional purposes, and in combination with double degree arrangement with Master of Library and Information Science. Potential Program Changes: update requirements to better appeal to students; explore option of awarding MA to doctoral students who have completed the MA requirements.
ASIAN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES	Master's	The Program in "Languages and Cultures of Asia" was renamed and reopened after a long period of suspended admissions, followed by substantial departmental restructuring. The decision to rename and reopen signals approval to continue. The effective date for reopening admissions was Fall 2018.	Insufficient time has passed to evaluate the impact of changes made to this program.
BIOMETRY	Master's		
BOTANY	Master's	Program review completed in Fall 2017; program was approved for continuation.	Associated with larger doctoral program. Program is used as access point for students (admitting master's), exit point from doctoral study; and as a stand-alone program.

CLASSICAL & ANCIENT NEAR EASTERN STUDIES	Master's	Review of graduate programs completed Spring 2018, conducted after departmental and programmatic reorganization. Program was approved to continue.	Program is associated with doctoral program; all programs were reorganized in 2015 to accommodate merger with another department, creating an "umbrella" structure for study of various ancient languages at advanced levels (two other MA programs were also discontinued). The MA serves as entry point to doctoral study, exit from doctoral study, and serves secondary education teachers seeking advanced study.
CLINICAL INVESTIGATION	Master's		
ENDOCRINOLOGY-REPRODUCTIVE PHYSIOLOGY	Master's		
~~ SEE OTHER SIDE ~~			
Academic Program Name	Degree Level	Outcome of Program Monitoring (Collaboration, Elimination*, Minor, Redirect*, Suspension*, Other)	If continuing a program, provide justification including adoption of new strategies, financial support, monitoring metrics, and governance oversight.
* Please report these actions via wisconsin.edu/program-planning/ppram-form/ .			
ENVIRONMENTAL CHEMISTRY AND TECHNOLOGY	Master's		
FORESTRY	Master's		
FRESHWATER AND MARINE SCIENCES	Master's	Program review completed Fall 2018, following transition of program from Engineering to L&S. Program approved to continue.	Program is "admitting" program, entry-point to doctoral study in related area. Faculty have been encouraged to increase enrollment, and aspire to adapt this program to be particularly welcoming to students of color. Also, when support is available, more students can be admitted.
GERMAN	Master's	Program was last reviewed in 2016, during restructuring that created the Department of German, Nordic, Slavic. Program was included in general recommendation for all programs to continue.	This less-commonly taught/taken language was not considered "low enrollment" under previous policy; nevertheless, faculty note that since 2014-15, 16 MA have been awarded (more than any other BTAA institution). The "admitting" MA is useful for student who are exploring graduate level study, and though students do continue to the doctoral level, it provides a useful exit point for those who pursue other careers.

HISTORY OF SCIENCE, MEDICINE, AND TECHNOLOGY	Master's	Program review completed in Spring 2015 led to recommendation for departmental restructuring, moving HSMT programs and faculty to Department of History. Approval of program transfers signaled recommendation for program to continue.	This program was not considered "low enrollment" under previous policy, and admission targets of two students per year align with ability to offer five years of full support to students in the program. This program serves as an entry point to a research doctorate and is not generally awarded as a stand-alone degree; it is awarded to students as they progress to doctoral study. The program operates within a larger departmental structure and benefits from (and enhances, in turn) other, larger, programs in History. Though it suffered some faculty attrition in recent years, the HSMT faculty is expected to grow in the next few years, in areas that should expand research support for students, and this may allow program enrollment to grow.
HORTICULTURE	Master's		
ITALIAN	Master's	Last program review completed in Spring 2015; program was approved to continue.	This less-commonly taught/taken language was not considered "low enrollment" under previous policy. Program is associated with doctoral program, and is needed to accommodate admission of students with varying levels of prior training, particularly if completed at international institutions. The MA is also awarded to students who may leave the doctoral program prior to completing it.
JAPANESE	Master's	Last program review completed in Spring 2016; program was approved to continue.	This less-commonly taught/taken language was not considered "low enrollment" under previous policy. This program is among several that are now overseen by the substantially restructured Department of Asian Languages and Cultures, and is associated with a larger doctoral program. It provides an entry to doctoral study, as well as an exit point from it for students who do not complete the doctoral program.

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	Master's	Program was reviewed prior to departmental restructuring and relocation from CALS to L&S, effective Fall 2017; approval of relocation signals decision to allow program to continue in its new environment.	Insufficient time has passed to fully evaluate the impact of changes made to this program; however, the faculty note that with consideration of the more recent five-year period, the threshold is met. They project that with current enrollment and new admits, the program should continue to meet this standard. In addition, faculty are clarifying and enhancing recruitment strategies and are working with related departments to expand graduate support (TA) opportunities. The addition of the new undergraduate major in Landscape and Urban Studies may also lead to increased opportunities for grad student support. Admissions should increase in proportion to access to stable support for graduate students.
LATIN AMER., CARIBBEAN, AND IBERIAN STUD.	Master's	Program review completed Spring 2018. Program approved to continue, with advice offered by review committee concerning revisions to MA.	Program has reorganized requirements to reduce overall credits to degree, reframe program as an interdisciplinary research program, and increase enrollment with more active recruiting to a broader audience. These changes went into effect Fall 2018.
LAW	Master's		
MOLECULAR AND ENVIRONMENTAL TOXICOLOGY	Master's		
MUSIC	Master's	Program Review Completed Fall 2016. Program approved to continue.	Program is offered with related doctoral and professional programs; provides access to or transition from doctoral program, and complements the much larger MM and DMA programs.
MUSIC:EDUCATION	Master's	Program Review Completed Fall 2016. Program's very low enrollment noted, with request that faculty clarify path forward or consider closure.	L&S and the Mead Witter School of Music are developing a plan for program discontinuation.
NUTRITIONAL SCIENCES	Master's		
PLANT PATHOLOGY	Master's		

PORTUGUESE	Master's	Spanish & Portuguese was last reviewed in 2014; at that time, L&S APC approved a motion to allow the programs to continue, while offering direction about several administrative improvements needed to support the programs, faculty, and staff.	Department is in administrative receivership. An external review will be convened, with continuation of the program in Portuguese one of the issues to be considered by the committee.
SCANDINAVIAN STUDIES	Master's	Program was last reviewed in 2016, during restructuring that created the Department of German, Nordic, Slavic. Program was included in general recommendation for all programs to continue.	This less-commonly taught/taken language was not considered "low enrollment" under previous policy; nevertheless, faculty agree that only 13 MAs have been awarded in the past five years. Program is used a preparation for to doctoral study; it is intentionally small, reflecting the small number of faculty positions in this field. (Graduate study in this area contributes to the goal of preserving and providing education in Nordic languages and cultures that have historical and economic significance in Wisconsin.) The MA is useful for students exploring graduate study, including doctoral study at other institutions in non-language fields (e.g., history), as well as for returning adult students who are retooling for career changes. Possible program action: consider program name change, to "Nordic Studies," to accommodate expanded range of language and cultural study.
SOCIAL AND ADMIN. SCIENCES IN PHARMACY	Master's		
SPECIAL GRADUATE COMMITTEE	Master's	Administrative approval to continue.	This programs serves as an important tool for facilitating program completion for students who delay graduation from discontinued programs, who combine disciplines in innovated ways, who transfer programs very late in their careers, etc. Because this tool is only used in extraordinary cases, awards are necessarily low.
ZOOLOGY	Master's	Program review completed Spring 2017. Program approved to continue.	Program is associated with larger doctoral program, provides appropriate exit point for students who do not continue with doctoral study. On a limited basis, program also serves as entry point for students who may go on to doctoral study, or for students working with faculty on specific short-term research projects.