As a result of the fifth cycle of DePaul University's Academic Program Review Process (Cycle 5), the participants in the process enter into the following agreements. The participants understand that this document will be available to be made public once all the signatures are in place.

University Commitments to Cycle Five Units:

1. Academic and Career Advising:
   a. The University will look into providing institutional assistance for graduate/professional school preparation in terms of publicizing and making certain that standardized test preparation programs are available.
   b. The University will look into implementing advising alerts through Campus Connect that encourage students to contact their advisors prior to enrolling in courses.

2. Diversity:
   Consistent with the University’s mission, DePaul University remains strongly committed to promoting the diversity of faculty, students, and staff. Academic Affairs will support a variety of strategies developed by departments and programs to enhance such diversity.

Common actions agreed upon for the sciences at DePaul:

1. Graduate Stipends.
   The Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences acknowledges that current graduate stipends in the sciences are less than what is offered at comparable institutions and has made a commitment to make progress toward equity in this matter. Hence, an increase for stipends has been included in the budget for the coming academic year. However, for the long term, departments should consider alternatives to handling graduate assistant responsibilities such as lab staffing. Both sides agreed to continue discussions regarding alternative strategies in this matter within the larger context of the roles of the Masters science programs at DePaul.

2. Science Facilities
   The Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the EVP for Academic Affairs commit to being advocates for the sciences and science facilities at DePaul. Furthermore, they ask to be kept aware of the changing and upcoming needs of the science departments as they become apparent including: changes in curriculum, concentrations, and technology. Knowledge of emerging developments in the field will then allow the institution to better situate itself for the future.

3. Transitional Masters Program Initiative
   Academic Affairs and the Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences agree to continue support of the transitional Masters program being piloted with Xavier University-New Orleans. The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Academic Affairs, and the science units agree to search for funding to support students brought in through this initiative without decreasing funds to existing graduate
4. Freshman Sequencing Flexibility

The Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the EVP for Academic Affairs strongly support efforts by the sciences to create flexible entry points into their programs. Actions including the reorganization of courses, the staggering of introductory sequences, and scheduling cooperation within the sciences and mathematics departments are all endorsed as ways to encourage student enrollment.

5. Formal Evaluation of Terminal Masters Programs

The Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the EVP for Academic Affairs encourage the science departments that offer terminal graduate degrees to evaluate these programs in terms of the quality of educational experience provided, satisfaction with student applicants, roles the program currently fulfills, future expectations of the programs and ways to achieve these goals. The Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the sciences agree to continue discussions regarding future directions for these programs where applicable.

Actions agreed upon for the coming academic year:

1. Curriculum Revisions
   During the coming academic year, the Physics Department will make it a high departmental priority to revise the lecture and lab components of the calculus-based introductory physics sequences in order:
   a. to encourage students to reflect on and interpret data and also to effectively communicate their findings in writing; and
   b. to allow students to begin a Physics major during either the Fall or Winter of their freshman year and possibly during the Spring quarter, rather than student entry being restricted to the Fall.

2. Transitional Masters Program Initiative
   The Physics Department will pilot a version of the transitional graduate program for minority students through its agreement with Xavier University to have a small number of Xavier students enter the Applied Masters in Physics in Fall 2003. The Physics Department, as well as, Academic Affairs, and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences are all committed to the initiative and will seek ways to support the program, further details regarding administrative support are listed in the “Common Actions Agreed upon for the Sciences” section of this MOA.

3. Graduate Assistants
   The Physics Department will determine the roles of graduate assistants within their department and the Lab Coordinator will orient graduate assistants regarding their responsibilities.

4. Mathematics Sequence
   The Physics Department will continue working with the Mathematics Department and also the other sciences to examine the first year calculus sequence and second year multivariable calculus sequence. In the Spring of 2004 the Physics Department will report on the progress made in changing the content and pedagogy of the first and second year sequences to meet the needs of Physics students.

5. Diversity
   The Physics Department remains committed to the recruitment of a diverse student body within its program and to diversity in the hiring process as faculty lines become available. The department also agrees to be open to future conversations with the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and
Sciences regarding alternative hiring strategies for increasing diversity.

6. Teacher Preparation
   The Physics Department will continue its commitment to the improvement of the preparation of K-12 science teachers through conversations with the Dean of the College and with appropriate persons in the School of Education to investigate what special courses/programs they might introduce for this purpose, possibly including some special certificate programs.

Signed:

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Chair of Unit Review Committee  Department Chair/Program Director

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APRC Subcommittee  APRC Subcommittee

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Chair of APRC

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Dean of the College

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Associate V.P. for Academic Affairs  Executive V.P. for Academic Affairs