Understanding the Past Domain

As a result of the sixth cycle of DePaul University's Academic Program Review Process (Cycle 6), 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.

Common items for the Liberal Studies Program:

Domain goals and learning outcomes:

Each Advisory Committee will articulate its specific goals, consistent with the DePaul Learning Goals, and will then derive from them assessable expected student-learning outcomes which are to be included in all unit syllabi. This task is to be completed according to a schedule to be provided by the LSC and/or its chair so that the LSC can approve these goals and outcomes by June 2005.

Writing standards:

Each Advisory Committee will determine the acceptable amount and type of writing to be required in its courses, taking into consideration the variety of courses offered in that domain, and being sure that such assignments are sensitive to and consistent with the students’ prior and/or concurrent writing experience and preparation, including the first year writing course(s). This task is to be completed according to a schedule to be provided by the LSC and/or its chair so that the LSC can approve these standards by June 2005.

Quality control:

During the coming year, Liberal Studies Council will establish a sub-committee to consider ways to ensure the academic quality of LSP courses. While it remains the responsibility of Liberal Studies Council to set standards for rigor and challenge, this subcommittee will make recommendations to the LSC about mechanisms and processes to ensure those standards are maintained. As part of its recommendations, this committee will identify distinct roles for the advisory committees and contributing departments in carrying out their responsibilities in maintaining the quality of Liberal Studies courses. Once the Liberal Studies Council approves these recommendations, it will be the responsibility of the advisory committees to carry out the tasks assigned to them.

Actions agreed upon by the Understanding the Past Domain for the coming academic year (2004 - 2005):

1. Structure Change:
   
a. The Understanding the Past Domain will propose to the Liberal Studies Council that the use of 1945 to distinguish between the historical period and the contemporary period, which limits course offerings to pre-1945, be dropped or changed to a later date.
2. Faculty Recruitment:
   a. The Advisory Committee will take steps to increase the number of faculty who teach in
      the domain from outside of the History department and outside of the College of Liberal
      Arts & Sciences. The Committee will speak with Chairs of other departments and Deans
      to discuss ways in which the Understanding the Past Domain can better serve students
      through diverse faculty recruitment.

3. Faculty Development:
   a. The Advisory Committee will provide an orientation session for adjuncts and new tenure-
      track instructors.
   b. The Advisory Committee will continue to maintain and update the domain handbook.

Signed:

Advisory Committee Chair: __________________________________________

APRC Subcommittee: _______________________________________________

Chair of APRC: ____________________________________________________

Associate Dean, Liberal Arts and Sciences: _____________________________

Dean of the College: ________________________________________________

Associate V.P. for Academic Affairs: _________________________________

Executive V.P. for Academic Affairs: _________________________________