

To: Faculty Assembly

From: Academic Review Committee (ARC) *

Date: February 19, 2003

Subject: ARC Report #4 to the Faculty Assembly

- The ARC continues to gather information, study, and evaluate two proposals from the two School of American & International Studies (AIS): 1) a *Foreign Language Requirement*, and 2) a *New Major in Spanish Language Studies*. The ARC supports the foreign language requirement in principle. We are evaluating: 1) the impact of the Foreign Language Requirement proposal on students in regard to General Education and course load requirements, and 2) the impact of both proposals on faculty resources (e.g., the number of faculty lines) required to support the proposals. These proposals are posted on the Faculty Assembly website. We encourage you to read them and discuss them with your colleagues in your convening groups and council meetings. Current plans are to present these two proposals at the next Faculty Assembly meeting in March.
- The ARC had planned to present the *Student Evaluations – Suggestions for Reform* Report at this meeting. However, due to other priority items (e.g., The Provost's Course Load Report et al.), we will need additional time to study the report, which is posted on the Faculty Assembly website.
- One of the functions of the ARC is to establish and publish academic and curricular guidelines. Based on information supplied by the schools and convening groups, the ARC reaffirms with minor changes the course-level guidelines for determining 100-, 200-, 300-, and 400-level courses, adopted by the Faculty Assembly on May 22, 1991. In addition, the ARC is preparing course syllabi guidelines and will distribute them and the course-level guidelines to the Schools for discussion before bringing them to the Faculty Assembly for a vote.
- A draft working copy of the instructions for completing the ARC Course Request Form is now available and has been distributed to the Schools. Please see your ARC representative (Elaine, Fran, Ira, Rob, Shalom, or Stephen) for assistance in completing the form. Also, we plan to post the form and instructions on the Faculty Assembly website.
- Since its last report, the ARC approved the following three course request items: 1) "AAMR/SENV320 Geography of the American West," a Study Abroad course currently being taught by Howard Horowitz (TAS), was approved as a General Education course in the Global/Multicultural (old) and the U.S. Cultures (new) categories; 2) a new SSHS General Education course "MMET3XX The African Presence in Contemporary Latin America," developed by Niza Fabre (AIS), was approved in the Global/Multicultural (old) and World Cultures (new) categories, and 3) a new 4-week summer pilot course, "BBAD3XX Interpersonal Workplace Skills," developed by Susan Eisner (SAB), was approved as a free elective.
- The ARC voted to extend the deadline for double counting designated 400-level disciplinary seminars as Senior Seminars to May 2004.

* ARC Membership: Stephen Klein (SAB), Chair; Shalom Gorewitz (CA); Robert Mentore (TAS); Elaine Risch (LIB); Frances Shapiro-Skrobe (SSHS); Ira Spar (AIS); Martha Ecker (Office of the Provost, ex-officio member)