

# **Program Review for History**

## Development of Action Steps

### **General Comment:**

The reviewers were impressed with the History program. They expressed the view that the program has opportunities for growth, can increase enrollment in its M.A. program, and has a strong culture. They identified challenges that would need to be addressed, including some that pertain to the medium-term and beyond.

### **Commendations:**

1. The undergraduate program has continued to grow.
2. Faculty engagement and a strong culture.
3. Effective leadership of Chair Marie Marianetti has been a strength.
4. Broad student satisfaction.

### **Identified Issues:**

1. Need to update learning outcomes.
2. Need to broaden scope (largely American and European).
3. Medium-term faculty retirements and need for a leadership transition plan.
4. Students' concern that too many courses are "writing intensive".
5. Declining enrollment in the M.A. program.
6. Use of personal laptops as teaching tools.

**Recommendations:**

| Recommendation  | Strengths Leveraged/Issues Addressed | Notes   | Responsible Party                                   | Actions Taken |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|---------------|
| 1. Hire a faculty member who specializes in Latin American history (continue to consider diversity in the hiring)                                       | Issue #2                             | Cost: XXXX<br><br>Replacing a retired faculty member (a justification was submitted to the Provost's Office). Retired in Spring 2022.   | Provost<br>Dean<br>Program                          |               |
| 2. Develop a departmental leadership transition plan<br><br>Develop a "next generation" hiring plan over the medium-term to consider likely retirements | Issue #3<br><br>Issue #3             | Has some people in mind. People have not volunteered to Chair the Department (people feel it is a significant burden). Lehman has no policy for rotating chairs and no incentives for chairs e.g., stipends.  | Dean<br>Program<br><br>Dean<br>Program              |               |
| 3. Update learning outcomes for greater consistency with Lehman's ILO and NACE competencies   | Issues #1 and #2                     | Would build a better bridge between academic work and career readiness; could allow for a broadening of the curriculum. Evaluate the outcomes as they relate to career readiness. Will review learning outcomes.  | Program   |               |
| 4. Consider offering an online M.A. degree  | Issue #5                             | Could boost graduate enrollment and make it feasible to offer more graduate studies, only, offerings. Would tap into a broader population. Department is considering it (asynchronous and/or synchronous). Could have online and in-person tracks for the major. Online program would require graduate-only history classes.<br><br>Would a B.A./M.A. model work? Possible BTAG transfer population (2+2+1 or 2+3). Prior combined B.A./M.A. program had been eliminated due to low enrollment.<br><br>M.A. program has grown enrollment somewhat since 2018. | Dean<br>Program<br>Office of<br>Online<br>Education |               |
| 5. Reconsider Lehman desktop policy   | Issue #6                             | Not critical.   | Program   |               |

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|--|------------------------|---|---------|--|
| 6. Review share of writing intensive courses                 | Issue #4               | Will be reviewed.   | Program |  |
| 7. Reconsider lecturer policy                                | Opportunity for growth | Reviewers believe that the reluctance to hire lecturers is “coming at the cost of growing the major.” Chair would like lecturers, but faculty would prefer otherwise. | Program |  |
| 8. Actively recruit and support future teachers [of history] | Opportunity for growth | Currently supported. Discussions are ongoing. 30-credit vs. 36-credit programs. 36-credit Education minor.  | Program |  |

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|---|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------|---------------|
| 9. "More assertive" efforts to promote the major                          | Opportunity for growth               | Would also address headwind of declining transfer student population                   | Program           |               |
| 10. Consider opportunities for students to participate in public history. | Opportunity for growth               | Program calls it New York/local history. Resume visits to Metropolitan Museum of Art.  | Program           |               |
| 11. Need a permanent COA  |                                      | COA in history can't be filled until HR process is completed in the Office of the Dean | Dean Program      |               |