



University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process (UTQAP) Cyclical Review: Final Assessment Report & Implementation Plan

Program(s):	Classical Civilization, B.A., Honours: Major; Minor Classics (Greek and Latin), B.A., Honours: Major Greek, B.A., Honours: Major; Minor Latin, B.A., Honours: Major; Minor Classics, M.A., Ph.D.
Division/Unit:	Department of Classics
Commissioning Officer:	Dean, Faculty of Arts and Science
Reviewers (Name, Affiliation):	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Dr. Susanna Braund, Professor of Latin Poetry and its Reception, Canada Research Chair, and Interim Head, Department of Classical, Near Eastern and Religious Studies, University of British Columbia2. Dr. Michael Gagarin, James R. Dougherty, Jr. Centennial Professor of Classics and former Chair, Department of Classics, University of Texas at Austin3. Dr. Jeffrey Henderson, William Goodwin Aurelio Professor of Greek Language and Literature, Department of Classical Studies, and former Dean of Arts and Science, Boston University; member, American Academy of Arts and Sciences
Date of review visit:	October 15 – 16, 2012
Date reported to AP&P:	April 16, 2013

1 Outcome

The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs (AP&P) concluded that there were no issues to be drawn to the attention of the Agenda Committee.

2 Significant Program Strengths

- “Outstanding success” of revisions to the undergraduate programs
- “Very high” quality of teaching
- Successful expansion of the doctoral cohort
- Outstanding calibre, breadth and research productivity of the faculty
- Top tier, international ranking of the graduate program

3 Opportunities for Program Improvement and Enhancement

The reviewers recommended that the following be considered:

- Fully integrating recent hires (many with expertise in ancient history) into the graduate program
- Increasing attention to diversity in future faculty hires
- Improving communication with graduate student concerns to address concerns about changes to the comprehensive exams and related elements
- Improving communication with undergraduate students
- Increasing the competitiveness of the funding packages offered to graduate students in order to improve the recruitment of top candidates

4 Implementation Plan

The Dean undertook in consultation with the Department to support the following changes:

- Immediate Term (6 months)
 - Fully integrating recent hires
 - The Department will provide new faculty with some teaching release in the first three-years, focused internal research funds, a faculty mentorship program, and assistance from senior faculty in the design and delivery of graduate research seminars
 - Improving communication with graduate students
 - To address graduate concerns regarding program revisions, comprehensive exams, and related elements, the Department has organized regular meetings between the Graduate Classics Course Union (GCCU) executive and the members of the departmental Examinations Committee, as well as between the GCCU executive and the members of the departmental Executive Committee
 - Improving communication with undergraduate students
 - The Association of Classics Students (ACS), in conjunction with the newly-launched and already-successful undergraduate Oral Reading Club, organizes events that bring together undergraduate students and faculty members

- As a result of the Department's move into more spacious quarters in the Lillian Massey Building, the Department has provided both study space and meeting facilities to undergraduate students
- Medium Term (1-2 years)
 - Increasing graduate student funding
 - The Faculty of Arts and Science has earmarked additional funds for the 2013-2014 recruitment cycle to enhance the Department's ability to attract top-tier domestic students
- Longer Term (3-5 years)
 - Building faculty diversity
 - In addition to using personal outreach and targeted listservs, the Department will continue to work through the American Philological Association (APA), whose highest priority is recruiting minorities and persons of disability into the field of Classics

The Dean's Office will follow up annually with the unit to assess progress.

5 Executive Summary

The reviewers identified the programs' strengths as the positive revisions to the undergraduate programs; the very high quality of teaching; its top tier graduate program; the successful expansion of the doctoral cohort; and the outstanding calibre, breath and research productivity of the faculty. The reviewers recommended that the following issues be addressed: the level of integration of new faculty hires into the Department; the diversity of the faculty complement; communication with both graduate and undergraduate cohorts; and the levels of funding given to graduate students. The Department has initiated a variety of improvements related to these recommendations including providing new faculty hires with early teaching release, internal research funds, and mentorship from senior faculty. Graduate student leadership is now meeting regularly with Departmental committees, and undergraduate students have more exposure to faculty through organized events. The Faculty of Arts and Sciences has earmarked additional funds for the 2013-2014 recruitment cycle to enhance units' ability to attract the best top-tier domestic students. The Department will continue recruitment efforts to attract diverse candidates to faculty positions. The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs (AP&P) concluded that there were no issues to be drawn to the attention of the Agenda Committee.