



# **Davis Division Academic Senate**

## **Request for Consultation Responses**

### **Proposal: Establish Interdepartmental Program - Human Rights Studies**

**February 19, 2014**

The College of Letters and Science has proposed establishment of an Interdepartmental Program (IDP), Human Rights Studies.

# **Council of School & College Faculty Chairs (LS: SOC SCI)**

**February 7, 2014 10:51 AM**

The L&S Executive Committee proposed this, and we still support it. --Phil Shaver, Chair

# **Graduate Council**

**February 21, 2014 1:56 PM**

*Response continued on next page.*

February 21, 2014

**RFC: Proposal Establish Interdepartmental Program ~ Human Rights Studies**

The Graduate Council accepted the recommendations of the Academic Planning and Development (APD) Committee at its February 21, 2014 meeting in consideration of the above-mentioned Academic Senate Request for Consultation (AS RFC).

The Academic Planning and Development Committee met on February 14, 2014 and considered the afore-mentioned Academic Senate Request for Consultation (AS RFC).

UC Davis has exponentially advanced in this field to become a leader in undergraduate and graduate training in Human Rights Studies; this field has also significantly gained relevance in the programs of other major academic institutions; and UC Davis has an advantage of having faculty from different departments and fields, including humanities and social sciences, collaborating in the teaching of the major aspects of Human Rights. Although mostly oriented to undergraduate education, the development of graduate courses is also among the program's objectives.

During its discussion, APD identified some issues with the proposal. A better description of resource allocations projected to be committed for the program is needed, including TA needs and funding, resources for the program director, staff requirements, etc. Also, the program's designated emphasis could be described in more detail. A letter from Dean Owens was not included in the package considered, so perhaps such a letter would clarify these issues.

The Graduate Council submits the recommendations of the APD Committee as accepted by consensus at our meeting as the Council's assessment of the RFC.

Sincerely,



Rachael E. Goodhue, Chair  
Graduate Council

/vm

C: Gina Anderson, Academic Senate Executive Director

# **Planning & Budget**

**February 24, 2014 10:37 AM**

CPB discussed the proposal to establish the new interdepartmental program in Human Rights Studies. Overall, the committee was supportive of the proposal with a few minor concerns such as: (1) what is the advantage of creating the program since a minor is already available?; (2) what does the program do above and beyond the existing departments that will form the new human rights studies program?; and (3) faculty from the Law School should be included as part of the program since the focus is human rights. In addition, some members were concerned about the administrative costs regarding continual expansion of numbers of majors, minors, departments, programs, and graduate groups.

# **Undergraduate Council**

**February 25, 2014 3:46 PM**

## **FINAL RFC Response: Proposal: Establish Interdepartmental Program - Human Rights Studies**

- The minor must enjoy Senate support
- The minor, like other interdisciplinary programs (e.g., coastal science), should have a designated lead department.
- The proposal lacks a strong rationale for changing the current status of the program (minor) to a separate, free-standing program.