



UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE

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March 29, 1999

**TO:** All Faculty Members

**FROM:** Susan McGeary, Vice President  
University Faculty Senate

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan McGeary".

**SUBJECT:** Regular Faculty Senate Meeting, April 12, 1999

In accordance with Section IV, paragraph 6 of the Constitution, the regular meeting of the University Faculty Senate will be held on Monday, April 12, 1999 at 4:00 p.m. in room 104 Gore Hall. The agenda will be as follows:

**AGENDA**

- I. **Adoption of the Agenda**
- II. **Approval of the Minutes: March 1, 1999**
- III. **Remarks by Provost Schiavelli**
- IV. **Announcements: Senate President Michael Keefe**

**Announcements for Challenge:**  
None

- 1V. **Old Business:**  
**Recommendation from the Executive Committee for a Right to Education**

Whereas the intellectual community to which the University of Delaware belongs encompasses all those pursuing knowledge worldwide, and

- Whereas any attack on academic freedom serves to weaken that pursuit and thus is a threat to all in the community, and
- Whereas the Iranian government through its systematic exclusion of young people of the Baha'i faith from colleges and universities in Iran since 1980 and through its recent closure of the Baha'i Institute of Higher Education has violated international declarations of human rights and deprived the Baha'i youth of their legitimate pursuit of knowledge solely on the basis of their religious beliefs, and therefore be it
- Resolved that the Faculty of the University of Delaware condemns the recent shutdown of the Baha'i Institute of Higher Education by the Iranian government, the simultaneous arrest of faculty members and the confiscation and destruction of academic books and educational equipment, and be it further
- Resolved that the Faculty of the University of Delaware calls for the reopening of the Baha'i Institute and allowing all citizens the freedom to pursue higher education, and be it further
- Resolved that these resolutions be communicated to the Director General of UNESCO and to the Minister of Culture and Higher Education in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

**VI. New Business**

- A. Recommendation from the Committee on Graduate Studies (James Richards, Chair) with the concurrence of the Coordinating Committee on Education (Mark Huddleston, Chair) for the establishment of an M.A. degree in Physics and Astronomy (Attachment 1)

- Whereas there is a clear need in the community for post-baccalaureate training in physics and astronomy that is shorter, more limited and less research-focused than the current M.S. offered by the department of Physics and Astronomy, and
- Whereas the creation of such a program would not require an infusion of new resources but would instead build on existing courses, be it therefore
- Resolved that an M.A. in Physics and Astronomy be established in the Department of Physics and Astronomy.

**B. Recommendation from the Committee on Graduate Studies (James Richards, Chair) with the concurrence of the Coordinating Committee on Education (Mark Huddleston, Chair) for Permanent Approval of the Family Nurse Practitioner Program (Attachment 2)**

**Whereas** the Family Nurse Practitioner (F.N.P.) Program has since its inception in 1993 graduated 36 FNP students and awarded 17 post-mastered certificates, and

**Whereas** 100 percent of graduates have passed their national certification exams on their first attempt, and

**Whereas** all graduates are employed as FNPs and have expressed great satisfaction with the program, and

**Whereas** there is a continuing strong demand in our community for FNPs, be it therefore

**Resolved** that the Family Nurse Practitioner Program in the College of Health and Nursing Sciences be granted permanent status.

**C. Recommendation from the Committee on Undergraduate Studies (Alan Fox, Chair) with the concurrence of the Coordinating Committee on Education (Mark Huddleston, Chair) for Permanent Approval of Women's Studies (Attachment 3)**

**Whereas** the Women's Studies major has since its inception in 1993 proved to be an attractive and stable program, graduating 56 majors (in addition to 267 minors) and

**Whereas** support for the program across the campus has been strong, with participation by faculty and staff from three colleges and fifteen academic departments, and

**Whereas** this program and its majors play an important role in the broader community, be it therefore

**Resolved** that the major in Women's Studies be granted permanent status.

D. Recommendation from the Committee on Committee and Nominations (Jon Olson, Chair) with the concurrence of the Executive Committee (Michael Keefe, President) for the disestablishment of the Budget and Space Priorities Committee

Whereas the functions of the Budget and Space Priorities Committee and the Academic Priorities Review Committee are very similar, and

Whereas these two committees have met jointly once a year for a budget presentation by the Provost, and

Whereas the last two chairs of the Budget and Space Priorities Committee have suggested elimination of this committee, be it therefore

Resolved that the Budget and Space Priorities Committee be eliminated on August 31, 1999.

E. Recommendation from the Committee on Committee and Nominations (Jon Olson, Chair) with the concurrence of the Executive Committee (Michael Keefe, President) for the disestablishment of the Faculty Advisory Committee on Honorary Degrees

Whereas the issues which led to the formation of this committee have disappeared, and

Whereas this committee has been inactive for several years, and

Whereas the function of this committee is filled by a faculty observer, be it therefore

Resolved that the Faculty Advisory Committee on Honorary Degrees will be eliminated on August 31, 1999.

F. Recommendation from the Committee on Committee and Nominations (Jon Olson, Chair) with the concurrence of the Executive Committee (Michael Keefe, President) for the disestablishment of the Committee on Rules

Whereas the Committee on Rules serves as a staff function to the Senate, and

Whereas the work load of this committee is modest, and

**Whereas** the election of members of the Committee on Rules has lacked meaning, be it therefore

**Resolved** that the charge to this committee membership be amended to read: "The committee shall consist of the Secretary of the Senate, who shall be its chairperson, and four other members chosen from **current and past members of the Senate and shall serve two-year staggered terms.** Of these four appointed members, no more than two may be from the same college."

**G. Introduction of New Business**

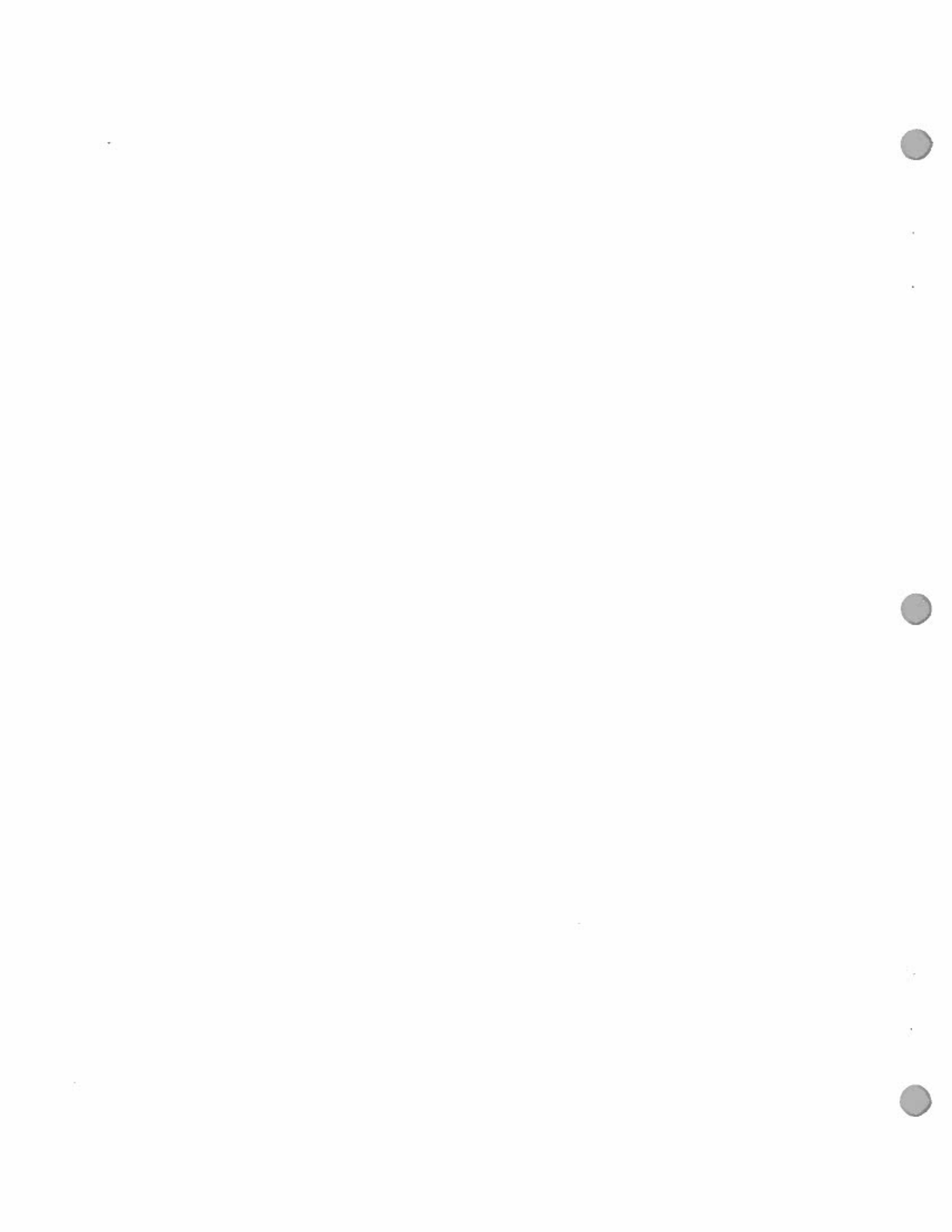
Such items as may come before the Senate. (No motion introduced under new business, except a motion to refer to committee, shall be acted upon until the next meeting of the Senate.)

**Attachments:**

1. New major in Physics and Astronomy
2. Permanent approval for Family Nurse Practitioner
3. Permanent approval for Women's Studies

**[Note: To save expenses, attachments do not always include the complete information and supporting materials available to the committee(s). A copy of all background information is being held for review in the Faculty Senate Office, 205 Hulihan.]**

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### *Introduction*

*The Department of Physics and Astronomy has had a thesis-based M. S. Program since the 1950's. The Ph. D. program was begun in 1962. Since the inception of the Ph. D. program more than 235 M. S. candidates and 158 Ph. D. candidates have completed their degrees. During the last decade changes in employment practices arising from the growth of the World Economy and demographic changes in the graduate student pool have made increasingly clear the need for an additional form of post-baccalaureate training in Physics, shorter, more limited, and more predictable than one that requires significant research and the composition of a substantial thesis. As such, it may appeal those in the work-force for whom commitment to a thesis-based program is impractical on a part-time basis. It may also appeal to those who wish to acquire some full-time post-baccalaureate training in Physics for which formal recognition can be provided on a time scale as short as five or fewer semesters. Such a program is proposed, and a description of it is incorporated into the material below. Because it involves no extended research, no formal thesis, and no exit exam, this program is designated as a "Master of Arts" program.*

### **M.A. DEGREE**

**CLASSROOM COURSES:** *30 credit hours of graduate level formal course work are required, at least 24 of which are taken in the DPA/BRI. The course work will not be accomplished merely be accretion of scattered credits, but will be methodically planned in consultation with the student's faculty advisor. In appropriate circumstances a project entered under PHYS 868 could be substituted for as many as 3 of the credits of formal course work.*

*Because it requires neither research nor a thesis, the M. A. degree can be completed more rapidly than the M. S. degree and may be the more suitable for students able to attend only on a part-time basis. But the M. A. degree is viewed as a terminal degree, and its recipients will not normally be considered for candidacy in the M. S. or Ph. D. programs within the DPA/BRI.*



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## REVIEW OF THE FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING AND POST-MASTERS CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Janice Selekman DNSc. RN,  
Chair, Department of Nursing

February 5, 1999

The Faculty Senate granted the above programs provisional approval on March 1, 1993. The first class of students was admitted that Fall with 8 full time, 13 part time and 2 post master's students. The total number of students enrolled in the Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) options of the graduate program through 1999 Spring include 45 full time, 61 part time, and 19 post-masters students.

As of December 1998, 36 FNP students have graduated and 17 post-masters certificates have been awarded. In Fall, 1996, the MSN program was expanded to include specialty tracks which deflected some of the students who at that time were in the FNP option; thus the current numbers have dropped somewhat.

FNP graduates from either option are eligible to sit for national certification through the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). Our FNP programs have met program approval standards from the AANP and the ANCC, which are the only two bodies that certify FNP programs.

One hundred percent of our graduates from this program have passed their national certification examinations on their initial attempt; those who elected to take both exams have passed both exams. Passing the certification exam allows one to apply for a second license in the state of Delaware as an Advanced Practice Nurse and receive eligibility to receive prescriptive authority.

One hundred percent of the graduates are employed as FNPs. The vast majority are working in primary care settings, including collaborative practices, school-based health centers, correctional facilities, hospitals, and community health agencies. The average salary of graduates ranges from \$45,000-\$75,000. Many have created new practice opportunities by being the first nurse practitioner in environments where Advanced Practice Nurses had not previously existed.

Minor changes have been made in the curriculum since its inception. The first change was to eliminate the Family Theory course taught through Individual and Family Studies, because that department was unable to accommodate the large number of nursing students in their classes. Relevant content was shifted to the theory course presented to all graduate nursing students (NURS803 - Theoretical Foundations of Nursing). The second change occurred during the initial years of this program, when national standards

increased the number of required clinical hours from 600 to 700. This resulted in the need to increase the number of credits for the final practicum course (NURS827) from four to six credits. The third change is still in the process of being finalized. Because students must complete 700 clinical hours as part of their educational program and because two-thirds of our students are working full time, it became necessary to allow students to split their final practicum into two 3-credit segments, thus stretching it over two semesters. Other curricular advances include taping the Advanced Pharmacology and the Advanced Pathophysiology courses so that they can be taken in a distance mode throughout the academic year.

Clinical placements occur in over 90 sites, 80% of which are in Delaware. Many of these sites render care to under-served populations. The Department of Nursing enjoys a high level of cooperation with the Family Medicine Residency Program at Christiana Care and has cooperative alliances with other clinical agencies.

The Family Nurse Practitioner program is privileged to have an outstanding group of qualified faculty, as well as qualified faculty available through S-Contract for selected courses. There is one full time and three half-time faculty as well as one full time professional teaching line assigned to the nurse practitioner courses. All standing faculty are actively practicing outside of the university in order to keep current in their knowledge and clinical skills. In addition, one individual who has a doctorate in pharmacology, as required by the certification bodies, is hired through S-contract one semester per year and then the course is available on tape in the Fall and Summer semesters. Due to increased needs for Advanced Health Assessment (a requirement for all of our Clinical Nurse Specialist and Nurse Practitioner tracks), an S-contract nurse practitioner faculty is also utilized.

Another full time faculty has completed an FNP program and is currently gaining experience in the University of Delaware Student Health Center, so that she may be available to teach nurse practitioner courses in the future. Funding for the FNP program is provided directly from the State of Delaware through a direct appropriation in the state budget. Therefore, there is no additional financial burden for this program on the university.

Alumni from the FNP program express a great deal of satisfaction with the program. Over 91% of alumni rate the program from good to excellent and 87% would recommend the program to others. Based on a survey sent out to all graduates of the program, the following strengths were identified: excellent quality of faculty specializing in the areas they taught (e.g., women's health, pediatrics, and adult health), solid primary care background, comprehensive program, flexible scheduling, excellent clinical preceptors and clinical agencies, and excellent guest lecturers and pharmacology faculty.

A number of suggestions were made for changes, most of which had already been implemented. Those recommendations that have already been implemented into the program included: changing the pediatric nurse practitioner faculty, increasing the number of hours of clinical practice, increasing content on musculoskeletal assessment

and conditions and drug and alcohol problems, increasing information on patient billing, and increasing experience in using the microscope to identify pathogens. Other suggestions for change that are currently being explored include increasing radiology content, using live models for various nurse practitioner procedures, and increasing the use of computers for clinical decision making.

This report speaks to the success of the Family Nurse Practitioner program and supports its continuation as a standing program.



## Review for Permanent Status for the Women's Studies Major

### Women's Studies Interdisciplinary Program

One of the pioneering Women's Studies programs in the country, the University of Delaware's program was established in 1973, and now ranks in the top tier of programs in the U.S. in its breadth of offerings. It provides both an undergraduate major (since 1993) and a minor (since 1978). Of approximately 725 Women's Studies programs nationwide, only 36 percent have undergraduate majors. It is a stable, well-established program in its 26th year of operation. Women's Studies has an alumni base of 323 graduates, 56 of whom were majors and 257 minors. Our teaching faculty encompasses 3 different colleges and 15 academic departments; approximately 45 faculty members teach cross-listed courses in Women's Studies and participate actively in various program events. Women's Studies depends upon the cooperation of affiliated faculty and their departments. (Letters of support from affiliated departments can be found in Appendix 1). Some 70-80 Women's Studies courses are offered yearly and there have been at least 40 majors in the program for each of the last three years.

#### E. Program Assessment

The program undergoes periodic assessment. In 1997, the program sponsored a curriculum retreat and focused on evaluating the WOMS curriculum. On the basis of that retreat, which involved 15 faculty from various disciplines, WOMS has developed a capstone course for majors, and outlined areas for further growth (e.g., courses in international women's issues, on issues of sexual orientation, natural science offerings, etc.). The program has also had curriculum meetings for adjunct faculty teaching WOMS 201, Introduction to Women Studies, to discuss pedagogical issues.

During Spring, 1998, the WOMS program was externally reviewed. This review was very positive and called for more resources for the program. As the external review committee noted:

"It is fair to say that the Women's Studies Program has had a major impact on the range and quality of both the academic and cultural experiences of University of Delaware faculty, students, and professional staff. Consistent with the University's mission to help provide well-educated citizens, the Women's Studies program is focused on developing critical thinking and problem solving skills our students will need in an increasingly complex, diverse, and global society. . . .

The contributions of the Women's Studies Program go well beyond the extensive course offerings, areas of concentration, and student development. Women's Studies is very active on campus, working closely with the University Office of Women's Affairs and the Commission to Promote Racial and Cultural Diversity. . . . sponsored activities are attended by hundreds of students, members of the local community, as well as faculty and staff. . . .

In summary, the Women's Studies Program has been remarkably successful. It has become a major asset to the University and deserves the continued support (of) the central administration and the Colleges and Departments with which it is affiliated."

Specific recommendations from the External Review Team included recommending two full time, tenure track lines in Women's Studies, and budgetary increases. Dean Andersen has concurred with these recommendations and WOMS currently has position requests being considered by the administration.

Women's Studies: A Ten Year Overview

