



Political Science Program Review
Program Faculty Response

27 April 2022

The Political Science Faculty greatly appreciate the work done by Dr. Anne Hildreth and Dr. Adam Johnston in reviewing our program. We believe that they have done an excellent job of assessing the strengths of and challenges facing our program. We have provided specific responses to items on the checklist. In this narrative we want to address some of the more general items from the Program Review team's narrative report.

Overall, the report is very positive. The report notes that as the program transitions from nine years with Dr. Kuehls as the department chair to a situation where Dr. Stramer-Smith will assume the program coordinator position (as Dr. Willard, a philosopher will assume the position as chair of the Department of Political Science and Philosophy), the program will face some challenges and some opportunities. We agree that this is a perfect time to think about the division of labor among the faculty, as the position of program coordinator receives only half the amount of release time as a department chair and no financial compensation. The political science faculty are planning to divide up some of the program duties that the Chair handled for the past nine years. The faculty also agree that having more meetings to discuss the various duties and what is going on in the program will be beneficial in establishing a stronger program community. The faculty are also interested in attempting to extend that sense of community to our majors and minors by holding various social events among the faculty and students.

Again, the overall assessment of the program by the review team is very positive. We take pride in being recognized as a program with "a remarkable, dedicated faculty ... (that) are a diverse and expert collective of scholars who are passionate about their work in and out of the classroom."

Dr. Thom Kuehls
Department Chair