

Internal Academic Review 2005-2006
Jewish Studies Program
Internal Academic Review Committee Report to Senate

The Internal Academic Review (IAR) of the Jewish Studies Program is now complete. The Internal Academic Review Committee (IARC) has taken into consideration all of the submissions related to the IAR of the Jewish Studies Program and respectfully submits the following report. The IARC Report to Senate is intended to supplement the findings of the attached Review Team Report and to

advisory committee be established to assist the Director with long-term academic planning and to promote and protect the freedom of academic inquiry. Furthermore, the IARC suggests that the establishment of an endowed Chair in Jewish Studies in support of the academic goals of the Program, through fund-raising at the regional, national and international levels, should continue to be a priority.

With the recent influx of new resources, the Jewish Studies Program is well on its way to enhancing its profile and outreach on campus and within the local community. The IARC adds its endorsement to the Review Team Report and its recommendations:

Outcomes of the Internal Academic Review of the Jewish Studies Program

*Joint response submitted by the
Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science and the Director of the Jewish Studies Program*

Governance of the Jewish Studies Program:

The Internal Academic Review Team (IART), in agreement with the External Consultants, recommends that the Jewish Studies Program should be administered by a full-time director, who is a tenured or tenure-track Faculty member with a record of scholarship in Jewish Studies and significant experience in administering undergraduate programs.

The Faculty concurs with this recommendation and is in the process of hiring a full-time Director of the Jewish Studies Program, as a result of this recommendation.

The IART, in agreement with the External Consultants, recommends that the Director should be supported by a full-time secretary.

The Faculty will provide resources for enhanced secretarial support for the new Director (i.e., at least a 75% position).

The IART, in agreement with the External Consultants, recommends that a governance structure be created to provide guidance and support to the Director in policy and program matters.

The Faculty will support the incoming full-time Director of the Jewish Studies Program in establishing an advisory committee for the Program. The advisory committee should consist of instructors teaching in the Program, other tenured faculty with an interest in Jewish Studies, students, and the Jewish Studies administrative assistant.

Resources and the Future of the Program:

In response to the IART, and the recommendations of the External Consultants, the Faculty believes its additional investments outlined above will position Jewish Studies more prominently within Queen's and the community-at-large.

Follow-up on these recommendations and issues will take place during annual budget and staffing strategy meetings between the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science and the Vice-Principal (Academic)

Attachment:

Review Team Report

FINAL REPORT OF THE INTERNAL ACADEMIC REVIEW TEAM
OF
THE JEWISH STUDIES PROGRAM

29 March 2006

Internal Academic Review Team

Susan Brodt
Gregory Jerkiewicz
Joshua Kertzer
Leila Notash
Mark Rosenberg (Chairperson)
Bob Weisnagel

**Report of the Internal Academic Review Team
of the Jewish Studies Program**

Executive Summary

The Internal Academic Review Team (IART) based its report on the Jewish Studies Program Unit Self-Study (Unit Study), the report of the External Consultants (Dr. Eliezer Segal and Dr. Daniel Boyarin), a meeting held with the External Consultants, a meeting with Dr. Justin Lewis and his colleagues and three meetings of the IART to consider both the written and oral submissions. The report and recommendations that follow represent a consensus view of the IART.

The report is divided into five sections: Section 1- The Undergraduate Program, Section 2 - Administration of the Program, Section 3 - Program Resources, Section 4 - Community Relations, and Section 5 - Conclusions and Summary Recommendations.

- Finally, the IART observed that some of the issues related to the administration of Jewish Studies may be symptomatic of systemic issues related to the administration of all similar small programs at Queen's University. We recommend that the Dean of Arts and Science review and address these issues in the context of all similar small programs at Queen's University.

Introduction

The Internal Academic Review Team (IART) has based its report on the Jewish Studies Program Unit Self-Study (Unit Study), the report of the External Consultants (Dr. Eliezer Segal and Dr. Daniel Boyarin), a meeting held with the External Consultants (17 January 2006) and a meeting with Dr. Justin Lewis and his colleagues (31 January 2006).

The IART held three meetings to discuss the Jewish Studies Program (JS) at various stages of the process (31 October 2005, 11 January 2006 and 16 March 2006). A draft report was circulated on 6 March 2006. Based on written comments and the meeting of 16 March 2006, the report was finalized and represents a consensus view among the IART.

The report is divided into five sections: Section 1- The Undergraduate Program, Section 2 - Administration of the Program, Section 3 - Program Resources, Section 4 - Community Relations and Section 5 - Conclusions and Summary Recommendations. In each section, we highlight the strengths, the weaknesses and recommendations.

Section 1 – The Undergraduate Program

and would be beneficial in resolving some of the current weaknesses in the program, but it is unclear that even if these requests were all met how this would lead to increased enrolments and future BA majors program. There is a shared responsibility between the Office of the Dean of Arts and Science, the Director of Jewish Studies and the other academic members to develop this vi

responsibility to play a community role. If this is in the formal current job description of the director, it should be removed and if it is informally implied, the practice should be stopped. In addition, other recommendations such as making the director's position full-time and creating a formal governance structure without community involvement would also go some way in reducing the tensions between the director of Jewish Studies and the community.

A fine balance is required on the part of the director and the university. The continued financial support of the community is required should the Advancement Office renew its efforts to fund an endowed chair in Jewish Studies. There is also something positive to be gained if the community has a role in the Harry Rosen Memorial Symposium and Bep and Sal Fransman Memorial Lecture Series. These roles have to be clearly defined and any community representation must be within the broader context of an understanding that the decisions made must conform to the broader goals and values of the university linked to scholarship and academic freedom.

Section 5 – Conclusions and Summary Recommendations

Jewish Studies has only existed as a program for 13 years at Queen's. Over this time, there have been three directors and three revisions to the program. In comparison to similar programs at Queen's and Jewish Studies programs at other universities in North America, Jewish Studies has done remarkably well in providing high quality courses as a BA Minor program. Dr. Lewis and his fellow in

- Finally, the IART observed that some of the issues related to the administration of Jewish Studies may be symptomatic of systemic issues related to the administration of all similar small programs at Queen's University. We recommend that the Dean of Arts and Science review and address these issues in the context of all similar small programs at Queen's University.