



PRESERVATION STUDIES
DOCTORAL PROGRAM

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MEMORANDUM

To: Barbara Settles, Department of Individual and Family Studies
Owen White, Department of History
George Watson, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

From: Joyce Hill Stoner, Director, Preservation Studies Program

Re: Permanent Status Review Report: Preservation Studies Doctoral Program

Thank you very much for the PSPR internal review report for the Ph.D. in Preservation Studies. I am so glad that you believe that our program merits permanent status. Thank you for noting that the program "represents the best of the academy by promoting cross-disciplinary scholarship." We are very proud of the breadth of our participating faculty and the awards and achievements of our students to date.

We have been asked to write a brief response to the review by April 26.

In response to two of your comments:

1. "The small size of the program also perhaps makes it less feasible to add value by inviting outside speakers or allowing students to serve as teaching assistants or offer classes of their own, a potential drawback for those who may wish to remain in the academy."

Response: Actually, six of the students to date have served as Teaching Assistants, and several of these have conducted their own classes, internships, or independent studies for undergraduates or Master's-level students. Each of the PSP students has a main home department (usually ARTC or CHAD) and attends the guest lectures in that department. All of the PSP students to date have delivered lectures during their second year in the program to Master's-level and undergraduate students in an annual spring seminar.

2. "The program guidelines stipulate 'a ceiling of five years for the completion of all requirements of the PhD degree, including the dissertation and defense.' It may be noted that at least two students went above that ceiling."

Response: The wording in the guidelines is: "There is a ceiling of five years for the completion of all requirements of the Ph.D. degree, including the dissertation and defense. Extensions may be granted on a year-to-year basis if the student can demonstrate continuing progress." We expected to grant extensions on occasion, but wanted to encourage students to attempt to finish in a timely manner so that they would be likely to use their funding wisely. The first two

graduates finished in four years; the third graduate (for May 2013) applied for extensions, and with the encouragement of her full committee, has finished in seven years. (English is her second language, and the timeline for several of her phases was slightly elongated.) However, we could change the wording to: “Students are expected to complete all requirements of the Ph.D. degree, including the dissertation and defense, in five years. Extensions may be granted on a year-to-year basis if the student can demonstrate continuing progress.”

Thank you so much again for your thoughtful review.

cc: Ann Ardis, Interim Deputy Provost
Nancy Brickhouse, Interim Provost
Debra Hess Norris, Chair, Art Conservation
Sheldon Pollack, Faculty Senate President
Andrew Teplyakov, Graduate Studies Committee
Karren Helsel-Spry, Faculty Senate Office
Mary Martin, Assistant Provost