ANNUAL REPORT
UNIVERSITY INTERDISCIPLINARY COUNCIL
2008-09

College Representatives:

Behavioral and Social Sciences  Edward McCaughan
Business  Bo Hu
Creative Arts  Jeff Jacoby
Education  Yanan Fan
Ethnic Studies  Carlos Cordova
Health and Human Services  Jerry Shapiro, Chair
Humanities  Maricel Santos
Science and Engineering  Gerianne Krause
Member-at-large  Tanya Augsburg
Member-at-large  Justin Tiwald
Academic Senate/EPC  Ray Trautman

Provost's Representative:  Kenneth Monteiro

Graduate Division:  Dean Ann Hallum

Undergraduate Division  Dean Gail Evans

Responsibilities of the Council (per University Policy -- Spring, 1981 & 1985)

1. Exercise academic leadership in developing and fostering interdisciplinary efforts for the benefit of the University as a whole.

2. Serve as the collaborative, cooperating, communicating body for all existing interdisciplinary efforts across campus.

3. Consult with Schools on the forms and characteristics of their interdisciplinary centers. [Subsequent policy (S85-129) requires all new cross-school interdisciplinary program proposals to have an identified and committed administrative location.]

4. Review and comment on all new, cross-school, interdisciplinary curricular proposals, both undergraduate and graduate, in an advisory capacity to the Associate Provost and the Senate Curriculum Review and Approval Committee.

5. Consult with the Segment III Committee in the development of criteria for evaluating proposed sub-sets of interdisciplinary minors and other
interdisciplinary packages for meeting general education requirements. Consult subsequently with the Segment III Committee in the review of specific proposals.

6. Support faculty who wish to engage in the creation and implementation of interdisciplinary activities, whether a single instance such as a team-taught course, a research proposal, or a total curriculum. The Council requires access to budgetary resources, including faculty time when necessary, to carry out this function.

7. Publicize and represent the University's interdisciplinary activities to the campus at large and to interested publics.

8. Recommend changes in the University's procedures that facilitate interdisciplinary activities, e.g., FTE accounting, budget review, personnel evaluations, registration procedures, class schedule construction, etc.

9. Conduct periodic reviews of interdisciplinary activities of students and faculty at San Francisco State University, and report findings to the President. Special attention should be devoted to the maintenance of high educational standards.

10. Review all new interdisciplinary minor curricular proposals per separate University Policy (S81-75).

Activities of the year

1. Meetings: The University Interdisciplinary Council (UIC) usually met twice a month during the academic year on Friday mornings. Council members took turns at taking the minutes. Copies of the minutes are available in the Office of Undergraduate Studies.

2. Curricular consultations: The Council met with faculty presenting proposals in a number of areas. The Council provided observations, ideas, and suggestions concerning interdisciplinarity from the following program areas on campus:

   African Area Studies
   Child and Adolescent Development
   Immigrant Studies (Graduate Certificate)
   Design and Industry Department
   Latin American Studies
   Liberal Studies

3. Review of Interdisciplinarity of Programs: In the past UIC has been given the responsibility of periodically reporting to the President on interdisciplinary activities of students and faculty across campus. Recently, this has taken the form of having each program on campus include in its fifth cycle review a characterization of its interdisciplinary activities. The sixth cycle program reviews will follow this same format for the inclusion of a discussion of the
program’s interdisciplinary activities. This year the UIC received no program reviews for its consideration. We did meet with Linda Buckley, Associate Vice President, Academic Planning and Educational Effectiveness, and look forward to an ongoing working relationship with her in pursuing a consideration of interdisciplinarity in as Sixth Cycle reviews move forward.

4. **Review of Free Standing Interdisciplinary Minors:** In a separate University Policy the UIC is given special review responsibilities (charge # 10) for interdisciplinary free standing minors (FSM’s). The Provost and the Academic Senate in 2001 established a procedure for free standing minors to provide mini program reviews on a schedule that coincides with the regular program review cycle of their college. These reviews are submitted to the Associate Dean who in turn writes a summary report which is passed on to the UIC and the Coordinator of Interdisciplinary Studies for the University, the Dean of Undergraduate Studies. Based on its review of this document, UIC composes its Free Standing Minors Report. This year UIC received no free standing minor reports for its review.

5. **Liberal Studies Connection:** The University Interdisciplinary Council deepened its working relationship with Liberal Studies faculty. UIC undertook multiple consultations with Liberal Studies and is looking towards a number of joint projects in 2009-2010.

6. **Membership Commitments:** UIC initiated a proposal to Academic Senate which resulted in approval of 2 ‘at-large’ seats on UIC. Tanya Augsburg from Liberal Studies and Justin Tiwald were elected to fill these two spots.

7. Lastly, UIC conducted a ‘full house’ symposium with more that 80 participants. The November symposium was entitled Interdisciplinarity in Graduate Education. A survey was undertaken and results reported to participants. UIC plans another symposium during Fall 2009.

**Interest Areas for the Coming Year:**

1. Conduct two colloquia to advance interdisciplinarity on campus

2. Continue to work with Dean Ann Hallum on refining her proposed Master of Arts/Science in Interdisciplinary Studies

3. Explore working relationships with other pedagogy committees and work groups around campus to expand opportunities for linking interdisciplinarity, research, and community service

4. Expand UIC i-Learn site

5. Continue to find new ways of encouraging and facilitating interdisciplinarity across campus.
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Edward McCaughan  College of Behavioral and Social Science

Jeff Jacoby  College of Creative Arts

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Carlos Cordova  College of Ethnic Studies

Maricel Santos  College of Humanities

Gerianne Krause  College of Science and Engineering

Bo Hu,  College of Business

Kenneth Monteiro  Provost’s Representative

Ann Hallum  Graduate Division

Tanya Augsburg  Member-at-large

Justin Fiald  Member-at-large

Ray Trautman  Academic Senate/EPC

Gail Evans  Undergraduate Studies * Coordinator of Interdisciplinary Studies