



To: Vice President Academic and Research
From: Chair of English & History
Date: 14 June 2022
Re: Report of the English & History Department on the status of the Implementation Plan for the History Programme
Due: 10 July 2022 (due 18 months after the Senate approval of the Final Assessment Report)

Dear VPAR,

Article 3.6.11 IQAP (pp. 48-49):

“The Department prepares a report of the status of the Implementation Plan 18 months following Senate approval of the Final Assessment Report (FAR). The CAO monitors the completion of the status report. The Department submits the status report to the CAO who submits it to AppComm for review. In consultation with QualCom, AppCom may request additional information or action from the Department. When AppCom is satisfied with the 18-Month Status Report, AppCom forwards a recommendation to Senate for approval of the report. The Office of the CAO forwards the Senate-approved status report to the Board of Governors for information. The Office of the CAO posts the approved 18-month status report on the web and forwards it to the Quality Council.”

Progress on Implementation Plan

Briefly describe the status of each recommendation. If the status is incomplete, provide a rationale. If there were any alterations to the original Implementation Plan, please provide the rationale.

Recommendation 1

Establish a sustainability and program diversification committee (members of the History program and other stakeholders,

	within/outside Algoma University)
Status:	<i>Completed.</i>
Details:	<i>This History Programme Diversification & Sustainability Committee has been formed, and includes History Full-Time faculty, the Chair of English & History, and the Chair of Law & Politics. The committee will be a continuing one, and will add the new Dean of Humanities & Social Sciences. It will add other members as discussions progress in regard to potential collaborating programmes and partnerships.</i>
Recommendation 2	<i>Work closely together with Recruitment to articulate clear pathways from the History program to possible careers of interest to students; assist recruitment in Humanities and History specific recruitment initiatives with the development of relevant and program specific advertising materials; build closer professional relationships with high school teachers to better communicate and educate the community about the benefits and opportunities this degree program offers</i>
Status:	<i>In progress.</i>
Details:	<i>The chair of English & History met with recruitment team a number of times during the 2021-22 academic year. The History Full-time faculty volunteered to participate in the spring 2022 recruitment campaign. The History programme has also begun to accumulate materials which describe career paths and opportunities for students with History degrees. The (current) one Full-Time faculty member in the History programme will seek time in his schedule to reach out and initiate conversations with local high school teachers and counsellors.</i>
Recommendation 3	<i>Develop a more succinct departmental statement of specific undergraduate program level learning outcomes, to provide greater clarity as to how specific program level outcomes and objectives relate to the degree level expectations. Consistent year-level expectations should also be developed</i>
Status:	<i>Incomplete (and in progress in the future)</i>
Details:	<i>According to the Implementation Plan, this work was to be completed by June 2021. However, no work was completed on this item while Dr Johnston was on sabbatical (1 January-30 June 2021), and before Dr Rutherdale passed away at the end of June 2021.</i>
Recommendation 4	<i>Articulate more clearly the difference between learning outcomes and objectives.</i>
Status:	<i>Incomplete (and in progress in the future)</i>
Details:	<i>According to the Implementation Plan, this work was to be completed by June 2021. However, no work was completed on this item while Dr Johnston was on sabbatical (1 January-30 June 2021), and before Dr</i>

	<i>Rutherdale passed away at the end of June 2021.</i>
Recommendation 5	<i>Revise program learning outcomes to specifically include Indigenous ways of learning and knowing, to reflect both Western and Indigenous teaching and learning</i>
Status:	<i>Incomplete (and in progress in the future)</i>
Details:	<i>According to the Implementation Plan, this work was to be completed by June 2021. However, no work was completed on this item while Dr Johnston was on sabbatical (1 January-30 June 2021), and before Dr Rutherdale passed away at the end of June 2021.</i>
Recommendation 6	<i>Discontinue the requirement of HIST 2996 Historical Practices and instead incorporate instruction in methods and historiography into all History courses.</i>
Status:	<i>In progress</i>
Details:	<i>The programme revision form has been completed, and has received departmental and Humanities Faculty approval. It will now be passed to CurrCom and then Senate for consideration.</i>
Recommendation 7	<i>Continue the development of public history and community-based programming</i>
Status:	<i>In progress</i>
Details:	<i>Courses in these areas of specialization were developed and taught by Dr Rutherdale. Since his passing, there is no specialization in these areas in the History programme. The programme and the department intend to seek external (to the department) advice on developing further programming in these areas. However, the History programme continues to participate in the development of the "Algoma Remembers" course (in collaboration with the "Algoma Writes" course being developed in the English programme). This public history project seeks to record and document oral histories from Sault Ste. Marie residents as student projects within the course. Though the initiation of these courses will have to await safe, non-pandemic, conditions, the History programme has purchased one set of complete recording equipment in anticipation of the course starting in the near future.</i>
Recommendation 8	<i>Enhance the offering of online/hybrid delivery courses that could serve other programs (as electives) on multiple campuses</i>
Status:	<i>In progress</i>
Details:	<i>This is a topic of discussion and development within the department, and within the History Programme Diversification & Sustainability Committee.</i>

Recommendation 9	<i>Explore potential areas of concern revealed by consistently lower SFT scores (please see comment 16 on page 18 of the Report on Program Quality)</i>
Status:	<i>Completed</i>
Details:	<i>A discussion has taken place about this area of concern with and between all Full-Time and Part-Time Faculty that teach regularly in the History programme.</i>
Recommendation 10	<i>Consider narrowing the focus of the program's outcomes and objectives. Develop more depth in one or two areas, and leverage that for marketing and student recruitment</i>
Status:	<i>In progress</i>
Details:	<i>The History programme currently intends to develop one of these areas of focus: on Indigenous Histories in Canada. This area of expertise fits very well with one of the aspects of Algoma University's special mission, and would allow the full potential of site specific resources to be utilized in programming development and by students. Dr Johnston developed a successful request and rationale for hire in the History programme in the area of Indigenous Histories in Canada. A Full-Time, tenure-track, hire was approved in this area, and the hiring process is currently underway.</i>
Recommendation 11	<i>Explore development of programming specializing in histories of residential schools, Indigenous-settler relations, treaties and treaty-making, resources and the land; at minimum, more courses (introductory and specialized) in the history of Indigenous-settler relations are essential; collaborate with the Anishinaabe Studies program on this initiative; make better use of the Residential Schools Centre and the Shingwauk Archive in this context</i>
Status:	<i>In progress</i>
Details:	<i>Dr Johnston developed a successful request and rationale for hire in the History programme in the area of Indigenous Histories in Canada. A Full-Time, tenure-track History hire was approved in this area, and the hiring process is currently underway. The History programme will seek collaboration with the Anishinaabe Studies programme in the future, but does not want to overwhelm the (current) single Full-Time Faculty member in that programme with extra responsibilities at this point in time.</i>
Recommendation 12	<i>Explore how history programming could be integrated into some of Algoma's unique programming, such as Community, Economic, and Social Development and Anishinaabe Studies (other candidates include Political Science, English and perhaps others, as determined by the Program faculty)</i>

Status:	<i>In progress</i>
Details:	<p><i>Discussions about areas and innovative means of collaborative and complementary between the History and the English programme are ongoing, and include the development of an initial set of complementary courses one on Apocalyptic Literature and one on Apocalypses in History that have been offered twice so far. Further collaborative programming of this kind will be developed between the two programmes.</i></p> <p><i>The History Programme Diversification & Sustainability Committee will continue to have discussions about areas where complementary programming History can be developed to support other programmes through new courses and cross-listing opportunities.</i></p> <p><i>As mentioned in the details in response to recommendation 7, the History programme has lost its faculty member with expertise in community-based History. However, the programme will seek external expertise if available to inform further programming and collaboration in this area.</i></p> <p><i>As mentioned in the details in response to recommendation 11, the History programme will look forward to opportunities to discuss collaborative programming with Anishinaabe Studies.</i></p>
Recommendation 13	<i>Consider a change to the first-year courses, to focus more on the “making of the modern world,” rather than Western Civilization</i>
Status:	<i>In progress</i>
Details:	<i>The course revision forms for HIST 1206 & HIST 1207 have been completed, and have received departmental and Humanities Faculty approval. They will now be passed to CurrCom and then Senate for consideration..</i>
Recommendation 14	<i>Consider adjusting entrance requirements to match disciplinary standards and better align with learning outcomes</i>
Status:	<i>In progress</i>
Details:	<i>This consideration will continue as the learning outcome revisions are being revised. Some further expert guidance, perhaps from the Registrar’s Office, is required to inform this consideration.</i>
Recommendation 15	<i>Explore program graduation rates and transfer rates</i>
Status:	<i>In progress</i>
Details:	<i>This data has been requested from the Registrar’s Office and, when received, further analysis is necessary.</i>
Recommendation 16	<i>Program faculty are encouraged to seek external funding for both their own research and to provide training opportunities for students.</i>

Status:	<i>In progress</i>
Details:	<i>Because Dr Johnston is currently the only Full-Time Faculty member in the History programme, he is responsible for much of the History specific administration workload for the programme, including solely completing the implementation of the History Program Review recommendations. So, while he sees this suggestion as a worthy one, he is not currently able to seek external funding at this moment.</i>
Recommendation 17	<i>Explore more optimal governance structures for the program and the Faculty</i>
Status:	<i>Completed</i>
Details:	<i>The departmental government structure and opportunities for collaborative and complementary programming with the English programme has promising and significant potential. A new Faculty structure, including a Dean devoted to Humanities and Social Sciences programming, also opens great possibilities for collaboration, programme developments, and support for the History programme.</i>

Please use the space below to report on anything the Department/Program believes is appropriate to bring to the Algoma University Senate concerning this program. Please outline and explain any circumstances that have altered the original Implementation Plan and any significant developments or initiatives that have arisen since the program review.

Please see the comments in the “Details” boxes for each of the points above for this information.

In addition, it is significant to point out that when the History programme review was carried out – when the external reviewers visited and when they prepared their report, and when the programme responded to the external reviewers’ report – there were three Full-Time, tenured members of the History programme. However, one of those faculty members transferred to another department and programme, and a second passed away in late June 2021. This leaves only one Full-Time member of the History programme in place, and responsible for carrying out and completing all of the Implementation Plan. This has significant impact on the workload of that one faculty member, and thus progress (which was initially intended to be carried out through contributions and input from three Full-Time faculty members) and timelines may need to be adapted in response to this significant change of personnel, and workload, within the History programme.

Implementation Plan (from FAR)

The History Program Implementation Plan

Nr.	Recommendation	Responsible for Leading Follow-Up	Timeline for Addressing Recommendation	Required Resources
DIRECTIONS				
1.	<i>Establish</i> a sustainability and program diversification committee (members of the History program and other stakeholders, within/outside Algoma University)	All History programme faculty in collaboration with Department of English and History colleagues	Ongoing	None
2.	<i>Work closely</i> together with Recruitment to articulate clear pathways from the History program to possible careers of interest to students; assist recruitment in Humanities and History specific recruitment initiatives with the development of relevant and program specific advertising materials; build closer professional relationships with high school teachers to better communicate and educate the community	Department of English and History Chair in collaboration with History Programme faculty	Ongoing	Recruitment staff time and resources; Advertising resources; Financial support for Algoma Remembers

	about the benefits and opportunities this degree program offers			
3.	<i>Develop</i> a more succinct departmental statement of specific undergraduate <i>program level learning outcomes</i> , to provide greater clarity as to how specific program level outcomes and objectives relate to the degree level expectations. Consistent year-level expectations should also be developed	History programme faculty	June, 2021	None
4.	<i>Articulate</i> more clearly the <i>difference</i> between learning outcomes and objectives.	History programme faculty	June, 2021	None
5.	<i>Revise</i> program learning outcomes to specifically include Indigenous ways of learning and knowing, to reflect both Western and Indigenous teaching and learning	History programme faculty	June, 2021	Additional faculty member with expertise in Indigenous ways of learning and knowing
6.	<i>Discontinue</i> the requirement of HIST 2996 Historical Practices and instead incorporate instruction in methods and historiography into all History courses.	History programme faculty	January, 2022	None

7.	<i>Continue the development of public history and community-based programming</i>	Dr. Robert Rutherford; collaboration with English programme to launch Algoma Remembers	Ongoing	Support for Algoma Remembers
8.	<i>Enhance the offering of online/hybrid delivery courses that could serve other programs (as electives) on multiple campuses</i>	History programme faculty	Ongoing—currently all courses being delivered via technology due to COVID-19; this will provide helpful data and experiences for making decisions about which courses to move more permanently online after this pandemic	Ongoing technical support for online course delivery
	SUGGESTIONS			
9.	<i>Explore potential areas of concern revealed by consistently lower SFT scores (please see comment 16 on page 18 of the Report on Program Quality)</i>	History programme faculty	Ongoing	None

10.	<p><i>Consider narrowing</i> the focus of the program's outcomes and objectives. Develop more depth in one or two areas, and leverage that for marketing and student recruitment</p>	History programme faculty in collaboration with other programmes where applicable	Ongoing	None
11.	<p><i>Explore development of</i> programming specializing in histories of residential schools, Indigenous-settler relations, treaties and treaty-making, resources and the land; at minimum, more courses (introductory and specialized) in the history of Indigenous-settler relations are essential; collaborate with the Anishinaabe Studies program on this initiative; make better use of the Residential Schools Centre and the Shingwauk Archive in this context</p>	See detailed response in letter above; Department of English and History faculty	Ongoing	New full-time faculty hire in this field
12.	<p><i>Explore</i> how history programming could be integrated into some of Algoma's unique programming, such as Community, Economic, and Social Development and Anishinaabe Studies (other candidates include Political Science, English and perhaps others, as</p>	History programme faculty	Ongoing	Faculty time from other programmes

	determined by the Program faculty)			
13.	<i>Consider a change</i> to the first-year courses, to focus more on the “making of the modern world,” rather than Western Civilization	Dr. Warren Johnston (course instructor); note comment in letter above re. course title proposed	Delivery of new revised course planned for 2022-23	None
14.	<i>Consider adjusting</i> entrance requirements to match disciplinary standards and better align with learning outcomes	History programme faculty	December, 2021	None
15.	<i>Explore</i> program graduation rates and transfer rates	History programme faculty	Ongoing	Data and consultation with Registrar’s Office
16.	Program faculty are <i>encouraged to seek</i> external funding for both their own research and to provide training opportunities for students.	History programme faculty	Ongoing	Administrative assistance from Research Office and Finance with submitting applications and budgets. In the event of a successful application, ongoing support with budget administration and processing.
17.	<i>Explore</i> more optimal governance structures for the program and the Faculty	Dept. pf English & History faculty	Ongoing	None