Final Assessment Report

Name of Program
Majors and Minors in Theology and Religious Ethics, Bible Studies Huron University College

Degrees Offered
B.Th.

External Consultants
Dr. L. Gregory Bloomquist - (Faculty of Theology, Saint Paul University, Ottawa)
Dr. William Morrow - (School of Religion, Queen’s University, Kingston)

Internal Reviewers
Dr. Renée Soulodre-La France - Associate Professor and Associate Dean King’s University College

Date of Site Visit
February 11, 2016

Evaluation
Good Quality, With Report in Two Years

Approved by SUPR-U
April 13, 2016

Approved by SCAPA
April 27, 2016

Executive Summary
On their site visit the external reviewers met with the Vice-Provost, the Dean of Theology, the Dean of Social Sciences, the Principal, the Internal Reviewer, program faculty and students, librarians and program support staff. The reviewers determined that “the B.Th. Program conforms well to the Province of Ontario’s established degree level expectations for undergraduate degrees.” It was agreed that the B.Th. closely aligned with both Western’s Strategic Plan and Huron University College’s mission and strategic plan, and that this program offered undergraduate students a unique opportunity to study academic theology. The reviewers were impressed at the level of commitment by Faculty to ensuring the excellence of the program and to the idea of teaching academic theology at the undergraduate level. They found the Faculty to be impressive in their pedagogical and research orientations and strengths.

Significant Strengths of Program
- High level of quality of Faculty teaching and research
- Uniqueness of a program of Academic Theology at the undergraduate level
- Modes of delivery appropriate and effective in meeting identified learning outcomes
- Methodological perspective that allows students to reflect on religious experience ‘from within’
Suggestions for improvement & Enhancement

That the identity of the B.Th be resolved as this question is crucial to the program’s viability

That faculty resources be brought more into alignment with the themes represented by the modules—especially for the Theology and Religious Ethics modules

That enrolment be increased so as to create recognizable and viable cohorts

That Academic Counselling resources, and student mentorship be increased

That a better sequencing of courses be developed to add more 3rd and 4th year courses where learning outcomes can be refined and mastered

That capstone courses or experiences, more Community Based Learning opportunities with specific tailored learning outcomes, Library resources for learning/media literacy and perhaps distance education possibilities be explored and possibly developed

Recommendations required for Program sustainability:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
<th>Resources</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>That the identity of the B.Th be resolved and the ambivalence regarding its nomenclature and direction be addressed</td>
<td>Dean of Theology and EPC</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>2018</td>
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<td>That an identifiable program mentor such as a Chair or Coordinator of the program be established</td>
<td>Dean of Theology and EPC</td>
<td>Program</td>
<td>2017</td>
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<td>Enhance communications between the program and Undergraduate Academic Advisor</td>
<td>Dean of Theology</td>
<td>Program/Dean’s Office</td>
<td>2017</td>
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