

Final Assessment Report
Submitted by SUPR-G to SCAPA

Program:	Women's Studies and Feminist Research	
Degrees Offered:	MA PhD	
Approved Fields:	Feminist Theory; Health and Embodiment; Representation and Cultural Embodiment; Globalization, Equity and Social Structure; Sexuality	
External Consultants:	Dr. Andrea O'Reilly; Professor School of Gender, Sexuality & Women's Studies; York University	Dr. Mary Bryson; Professor and Director Institute for Gender, race, Sexuality and Social Justice, Faculty of Arts and Language and Literacy Education; Faculty of Education; University of British Columbia
Internal Reviewers:	Dr Andrew Watson Ob/GYN & Physiology & Pharmacology; Western University	Dexin Xi PhD Graduate Student Science; Western University
Date of Site Visit:	February 12 and 13 th 2015	
Evaluation:	<i>Good Quality</i>	
Approved by:	<i>SUPR-G on April 20, 2015</i> <i>SCAPA on April 29, 2015</i>	

Executive Summary

The review was very well organized; the externals were well-chosen, obvious experts and very committed to their task. All meetings with faculty, staff and students displayed a strong commitment to the program and its strengths. All displayed obvious pride and commitment to the program. Overall a very strong new program, that is emerging from initial phases of origins, with a likely capacity to grow much further and mature during the next phase of its history.

Significant Strengths of Program:

- The faculty and their scholarly accomplishments and their commitment to the program
- The staff and their commitment to the program
- The students and their enthusiasm and commitment to the program
- Times to completion are in line with expectations

Suggestions for improvement & Enhancement:

- A retreat to conduct curriculum mapping would be very helpful as only 3 courses are offered every year: WS 9550 *Feminist Theory*", and two methodology courses, WS 9560 *Researching Lived experience: Feminist Methodologies*" (oriented to students building expertise located in Social Science) and WS 9565 *Feminist Theory and Methods in the Arts and humanities*" (oriented to students building expertise located in Arts and Humanities). However both MA and PhD students must take 6 half course to complete requirements
- Assist joint appointment faculty in developing clear workload expectations that are coordinated with both faculties to ease stress on faculty
- Consider hiring future faculty recruits into WSFR rather than as joint appointments

- Contributions of affiliate faculty members should be counted in their workload agreements. As it stands their contributions are voluntary and their large numbers imply that the program is very well resourced.
- 4 year time for PhD completion was described by the external reviewers as not optimal or realistic

Recommendations required for Program sustainability:	Responsibility	Resources	Timeline
Complete curriculum mapping to align with LOs and to support timely completion	Graduate chair and faculty	none	May 2015
Assist faculty with joint appointments in developing clear workload expectations	Dept Chairs and Deans	none	2015-2016
Current space is not adequate	Dept Chairs and Deans	Physical space	2018 and beyond
Consideration should be given to adding a new faculty member	Dept Chairs and Deans	Budgetary	2018 and beyond