



Memorial

University of Newfoundland

Office of the Vice-President (Academic)
and Pro Vice-Chancellor

March 14, 2006

Dr. Richard Ilgner
Head
Department of German and Russian
Memorial University of Newfoundland

Dear Dr. Ilgner:

The Planning Budget Committee (PBC) considered the academic program review of the Department of German and Russian at its recent meeting and wishes to express its appreciation to your Department for its participation in this process.

The primary purpose of formal Academic Program Reviews is to give units an opportunity to engage in formative self-assessment and to obtain the advantages of commentary and advice from experts from the discipline in question. The role of PBC is to monitor the process and develop a body of knowledge that is useful in making broad strategic recommendations and provide sound budgetary advice to the University. It is not the role of the Committee to determine allocations to individual units, but we can sometimes offer advice or make potentially useful observations.

An anticipated outcome is planning that clarifies how best to achieve the unit's objectives with the resources available to it. From the standpoint of the University, the process also provides a measure of accountability to the whole institution and the public that supports us. The following issues were raised by the Committee during the course of its discussions about your review.

- Overall, the review was well done and the action plan is ambitious.
- It is impossible not to observe that there are significant internal problems that need to be addressed in the coming years.
- Placing the graduate program in a brief hiatus is worthy of consideration.

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It is clear that the Department has worked hard to provide a forward looking document. This offers hope that the Department will be able to implement its action plan successfully. We would encourage you to engage in a series of discussions designed to build on the work that has been done during the APR process and to articulate this sense of direction more explicitly.

On behalf of the Planning and Budget Committee, I offer my support and that of the Committee as you begin the important work of moving forward. We look forward to seeing your one year update in March, 2007.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "H.E.A. Campbell". The letters are cursive and somewhat stylized.

H.E.A. Campbell
Vice-President (Academic)

c.c. Dr. S. Wolinetz

✓ Ms. J. Bessey