

# **OPERATIONAL PLAN**

## **HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT**

### **CURRENT STRENGTHS**

1. Mark Henson, Associate Dean for Instruction, selected the Humanities department for piloting a strategic planning process with the 30 term faculty members of the Humanities department. Our department was chosen as a pilot because of its on-going efforts to maintain open communication lines between full-time and term faculty members. Henson cited the department's efforts to include all faculty at department meetings and the annual mixer as excellent examples of this process.
2. The department is a leader in generating appropriation funds for the College through our service courses. According to the College's Self Study for Reaccreditation, the Humanities department contributed to the largest number of graduates (278) for the years 2005-2006 in the CIP code snap shot.
3. The department has more than one course (Art 111, Hum 101, Mus 105, Spe 115 and Spn 101) which is used to help the institution determine whether or not the educational goals developed for assessment are being met.
4. The Humanities department initiated efforts to initiate and maintain communication with its external public including alumni and community members. Members of the department secured approval for department stationary that will allow them to achieve this goal.
5. A department member is participating in the HLC Assessment Academy for the College. This is a four year commitment.
6. The department values all members in their respective areas of expertise for their internal and external community involvement. For example, several department members serve on more than one committee at the College; art faculty work is chosen frequently for juried shows; music faculty conduct annual performances in local towns; speech communication faculty serve on boards in the district; and the chair of the department works closely with migrant populations and youth soccer.
7. The speech communication faculty developed an on-line SPE 115 course offered spring 2006. The class filled to the maximum capacity of 25 students when it began. This brings the number of distance learning courses offered through the department to four.
9. Philosophy faculty are generating credit hours for the College through new course proposals. Most recently, Mike Kowalewski prepared a proposal for a new course in philosophy, "History of the Christian Church" to be offered in Fall 2007.

10. A department member is the head of the International Education committee. She traveled to Canterbury, England in a full sabbatical in the fall of 2006. This excellent experience is tied to civic engagement in our department.
11. The Art program uses the exhibit space in B hall for student and professional work.
12. We have a thriving theatre program. We produce three plays, a musical and a holiday collage each academic year.
13. Diversity of disciplines, each individually strong; growth in foreign language – numbers in Spanish and addition of Japanese; excellent co-curricular student involvement – art, music, theatre; growth in the music program.
14. In the Humanities Department, each of us is deeply committed to our fields of interest and study.
15. A collaborative concert will be held in Spring 2007 with choirs from John A. Logan College, Southeastern Illinois Community College, and Rend Lake College. Performances will be held at all three locations. John A. Logan College will exhibit current artwork by John A. Logan College students at the Three-College Art Exhibition organized and held at Shawnee Community College April 25 – May 4.