

Cal State Fullerton Philosophy Department

Response to Report of PPR Review Team

March 12, 2013

The Philosophy Department enthusiastically endorses the report of our team of PPR reviewers: Dr. Tim Black (CSUN); Dr. Kathleen Higgins (UT-Austin); and Dr. Leila Zenderland (CSUF). We are extremely grateful for the time and effort that they have devoted to our department. We could not have had a better visiting team.

We emphatically endorse their report, including its 7 recommendations (p. 9-11), and 6 related concerns (p. 2-5).

We are especially grateful for advice with respect to five areas:

1. Students who met with the review team expressed an interest in having more information about graduate school in Philosophy. Thus far, Philosophy faculty have been working with interested students on an individual basis: helping individual students identify PhD programs; revise statements of purpose; revise writing samples; and get information about the GRE. In Fall 2011, the faculty raised the possibility of having a **'grad studies' meeting** with any interested Philosophy students. (Something along these lines was also suggested by the review team.) We all thought this was a terrific idea; we just have not had time to do it. We will plan to do it in 2013-14. As a supplement to our original PPR report (the review team did not have access to this information), the Philosophy Department has an excellent record of placing students in PhD programs in Philosophy. For instance, recent graduates of our program are currently completing, or have recently completed, PhD's in Philosophy at: University of Colorado; the University of Connecticut; Indiana University; UCI; University of Missouri; University of Oregon; SUNY Stonybrook; and Syracuse University (all of which are ranked in the top 25 PhD granting Philosophy Departments world-wide). Recent graduates are also completing, or have recently completed, Masters degrees in Philosophy at several of the top-ranking Masters-granting Philosophy Departments, including Tufts and Texas Tech.
2. Students who met with the review team also expressed an interest in having more information about the **Concentration** in Moral, Legal, and Social Philosophy for the Professions. As the review team's report states, the Philosophy Department plans to evaluate the Concentration's curriculum (see our Strategic Plan). We will also consider supporting and expanding the Concentration with a T-T hire. The Concentration has been consistently successful in placing students in internships; and in excellent law schools, including Harvard, UCLA, and UCI. As stated in the review team's report, the Department already recognizes the need to emphasize job placement. We continue to work with the Career Center on campus, and have hosted a panel on Philosophy and Careers in Business, which featured Debbie Darling, and two Philosophy alumni who are CEO's of small businesses (Spr 2012).

3. As stated in the review team's report, we have already offered Phil 312 (Business Ethics) **on-line**. We plan to continue to do so. In addition, we have already offered sections of Phil 100 (Intro) and Phil 314 (Medical Ethics) on-line.
4. The review team's report reminded us that we are already using two different types of **indirect assessment**: (1) we survey syllabi in conducting assessment for the Social and Global Awareness learning goal; and (2) we received the alumni survey, sponsored by the College of H&SS, the day before our PPR report was due.
5. Those outside of the discipline of Philosophy may not realize that women and people of color are still inadequately represented in the discipline, throughout the US. The data in the discipline of Philosophy demonstrate that Philosophy is lagging behind other disciplines in the Humanities with respect to the representation of women and people of color. Half of the T/T-T faculty in the CSUF Philosophy Department are women; and two are women of color. Our department is unsatisfied with the number of Majors/Minors who are women and/or people of color, and is addressing this issue head-on, through the work of our **Climate Committee**.

We are deeply grateful to each member of the review team. We endorse their report. For further questions and concerns, please also see our original PPR report, submitted in February.