

TO: Faculty Senate Executive Committee
FROM: Sue Monahan, on behalf of the Interdisciplinary Studies Advisory Committee
RE: IDS curriculum proposals forthcoming
DATE: October 12, 2017

In Spring 2016, six tenured WOU faculty members – Bob Hautala (Exercise Science), Ryan Hickerson (Philosophy), Shaun Huston (Geography), Sriram Khe (Geography), Marjory Lange (English) and Jeff Myers (Earth Science) – agreed to assume responsibility for the Interdisciplinary Studies (IDS) program. I worked with them in order to transition to faculty leadership of the program. The program has also been supported by Susan Griffin in the LAS Dean's Office.

Over the year, we:

- Revised the program's student learning outcomes during last year's alignment work
- Advised over 100 IDS students in 2016-17
- Drafted curriculum proposals for a program change to include a capstone portfolio and to create an IDS course prefix and two IDS courses
- Drafted and approved by-laws for faculty governance of the IDS program

We are submitting IDS program by-laws for the Senate's endorsement, per the instructions of the Provost. We will also bring forward a curriculum proposal to create a requirement for capstone portfolio; given the program's structure as described in the by-laws, it is our understanding that the approval queue will be:

IDS Faculty sponsor -> **IDS Advisory Board** -> Curriculum Committee -> Faculty Senate -> Provost

On October 24th, we will update the Faculty Senate about the new structure for the IDS program and introduce the by-laws. Our curriculum proposal will be submitted after Senate approval of the by-laws. Please let us know if you would like additional information prior to the meeting on the 24th.