

To: Faculty Senate Executive Committee
From: Sue Monahan, Dean, Liberal Arts & Sciences
Re: Update on changes to Interdisciplinary Studies
Date: May 16, 2016

I am pleased to announce that six tenured faculty members have agreed to serve on the Interdisciplinary Studies (IDS) Advisory Board:

- Bob Hautala, Health and Exercise Science
- Ryan Hickerson, Philosophy
- Shaun Huston, Geography
- Sriram Khe, Geography
- Marjorie Lange, English
- Jeff Myers, Earth Science

I am very grateful for their enthusiastic response to my request that they serve WOU by supporting this important program and its students.

Goals for IDS Advisory Board

- Engage faculty in advising IDS students, assessing the program and planning for its future.
- Establish an Interdisciplinary Studies Advisory Board to include up to 6 LAS faculty members. The Advisory Board would meet at least once a month, and among members share responsibility for the items in the charge below.

Draft charge for IDS Advisory Board members

- Provide academic advising to IDS students and other students with broadly interdisciplinary interests
- Develop a plan for a capstone experience for IDS students
- Assess student learning, relative to IDS learning goals, via the capstone
- Explore, develop and propose new curricular paths within IDS
- Attend SOARs and Preview Days to represent IDS program
- Attend advisor training workshops in AALC

Workload accommodation

- Workload reassignment (e.g., course releases, institutional service) is possible for faculty who serve as members of the IDS Advisory Board, and provide academic advising to interdisciplinary studies students and support and develop the program.
- Reassignment takes into account current advising load within the advisor's major and other service obligations.

Renewal

- Ideally, faculty will be able to commit to IDS Advisory Board service for at least 2-3 years, so as to build continuity and community for the program.
- Renewal in future years is dependent upon a variety of factors, including data from a student survey of IDS advising.