DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION
PROGRAM REVIEW SELF REPORT

Addendum to Standard 7

October 3, 2011

The communication department supports the university liberal studies program offering the human communication component; COMM 201 Introduction to Speech Communication. COMM 201 is required of all undergraduate students.

To staff the 30 sections of COMM 201 necessary to meet student demand three communication lecturers did class overloads teaching five sections of the class fall 2010 and spring 2011. This is an ongoing issue each semester.

Unfortunately, due to budget reductions the department lost a COMM 201 faculty member at the end of spring 2011 through retirement. Course overloads for fall 2011 were restricted. Beginning in fall 2009 a backlog of students who have not been able to take the class has grown based upon fall freshman enrollments.

09-10 Year

Freshman Class	1,552
COMM 201 seats	1,137
Short seats	415 students did not get a seat in the class creating a backlog

10-11 Year

Freshman Class	1,462
COMM 201 seats	1,491
Plus seats	29 of the 415 student backlog got seats

With staff and overloads this was the first year since the formation of the department in 2007 that COMM 201 was properly staffed

11-12 Year

Freshman Class	1,530
COMM 201 seats	1,252 (based on present staff and two overloads spring 2012)
Short seats	278 students will not get a seat in the class this year adding to the backlog

Total backlog at the end of 2011-12 will be 664 seats. Holding seats in freshman reserve further complicates the problem.

It should also be noted that in spring 2011 the search for a tenure-track organizational faculty member was abruptly halted and the concentration was dropped due to state budget cutbacks. The classes associated with the program have not been dropped from the university catalog.