

Approved

**2004-05 Annual Report of the Subcommittee on the
Breadth Requirement in American Cultures**

In fulfilling its charge as established by resolution of the Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate, the Committee on Educational Policy Subcommittee on the Breadth Requirement in American Cultures (AM CULT) carried out the following activities. The chair of AM CULT during 2003-04 was Professor Jeffrey Romm.

I. Issues and Actions

- The subcommittee regularly invited Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education Christina Maslach to meetings to discuss efforts to maintain sustaining levels of funding for the American Cultures program amidst severe budget cuts and the direction of the Center for the Teaching and Study of American Cultures. The subcommittee endorsed the development of an advisory council for the Center composed of strong supporters of the American Cultures program interested in advocating on its behalf. The Center formed a Faculty Advisory Board during the spring 2005 semester, and the subcommittee plans to work with the board frequently on issues relating to American Cultures on campus.
- The subcommittee reviewed 99 cases during the 2004-05 academic year as follows:

	Total	Approved	Denied	Pended
UC Berkeley Courses Proposals	27	24	0	3
Other College Course Proposals	10	6	1	3
Student Petitions	19	9 (1*)	8	1

*Sent directly to COCI as no course approval request was involved.

- The subcommittee and the staff of the Center for the Teaching and Study of American Cultures work together to offer extensive advice and assistance to instructors planning to submit courses to meet the American Cultures Breadth Requirement. The Center offers seminars for instructors (including graduate student instructors) developing American Cultures courses. The Center also makes available its archive of every American cultures course proposal, extensive collection of readers for many American cultures courses, and small, specialized library. The Center's staff and subcommittee members

work with instructors to assemble finished proposals, explaining the required criteria all American cultures courses must meet and the subcommittee's guidelines and approval procedures, referring them to other faculty members who teach courses that deal with related issues, offering the assistance of the American Cultures librarian to find course material, explaining pedagogical strategies that other instructors have found to be successful, and commenting on draft proposals. As a result of this extensive preparatory work, the subcommittee usually receives carefully crafted proposals that address all the issues the subcommittee requires to make a positive decision.

II. Future Action Items

- ▶ The Subcommittee will continue to work toward gaining approval for the new course evaluation/ approval guidelines.
- ▶ The Subcommittee will continue to work with the Office of the Chancellor, whenever possible, for advancement and achievement within the new campus diversity and inclusiveness initiative.