



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

faculty  
413

Senate Recel.

April 30, 2002

To: Bob Buckley

From: Dick Kornweibel

Subject: Transmission of GVAR Proposal

After preliminary discussion some time ago, the Senate Writing and Reading Subcommittee has prepared a formal proposal for a major change to the GVAR. In effect, the GVAR would be certified by writing in the major, but the WPE and/or 109 would be kept as prerequisite. That writing in the major would replace the current advanced study requirement.

The General Education Policies/Graduation Requirements Committee forwards the proposal with a positive recommendation conditional upon formal discussions of the proposal in each college with widespread involvement of faculty.

The condition is an important one. At present the GVAR is centralized in the English Department. This permits ease of supervision and ensures reasonable uniformity and fairness. Further, the burden (or opportunity) to offer advanced study courses each with a major writing component is assumed voluntarily by some departments and not taken on by others. Since the new proposal would require all departments either individually or in school aggregations to identify and modify or create major courses and accept and employ external standards for evaluation of writing it is imperative that every department and program examine the proposal prior to formal consideration in the Senate.

On behalf of the GEP/GRC let me suggest that each college convene a meeting early in the fall with multiple representatives from each department or program so their units fully understand the implications of the transfer of the GVAR and advanced writing prior to the Senate Discussion and vote.

6000 J Street, Sacramento, California 95819-6059 • (916) 278-6206 • (916) 278-7476 FAX