



# 2016-17 Academic Department Annual Report

**Academic Department:**  
**Document Prepared By:**

Language and Thought  
Mary Lucas

## **Annual Report Submission Instructions:**

This Annual Report of your Academic Department is intended to serve as a summary of departmental activities over the past year and as an outline of plans for the upcoming year.

Please note that responses are limited to the space provided below for each prompt and do not need to be written in narrative form (you are welcome to use bullet points/lists, as appropriate).

Please submit your Academic Department 2016-17 Annual Report to your Dean via email by May 31<sup>st</sup>.

For your reference, prior year reports (2011-2015) can be found on the Instructional Support website, <http://www.grcc.edu/instructionalsupport/departmentyearendreports>. If you have any questions about the 2015-16 reports entered into WEAVEonline, please contact Sheila Jones, Dean of Instructional Support, [sheilajones@grcc.edu](mailto:sheilajones@grcc.edu) or x4289.

## **Part I: Report on 2016-17 Progress**

Part I is intended to provide a “big picture” overview of your department’s activities during this past academic year. When completing the sections below, please consider the main points/highlights of each category.

### ***Current Year Goals & Outcomes***

This section asks you to provide details about the status of your department’s goals and outcomes for this past year. Please limit your response to the space provided in the text boxes below.

Goals from Last Year:

1. Hire a full-time faculty member to replace a retiree in COM Studies: This was not completed.
2. Foreign Languages: Transition to on-line source material: Hillery Haney did try this for the Fall, 2016 semester, but went back to a traditional textbook in the Winter, 2017 semester.
3. Humanities: Search for a new full-time faculty member: The search was completed Summer, 2016.

4. Philosophy: Improve course descriptions and make connections with Philosophy departments at other colleges: Curriculum revisions were needed on one PL class (PL 202) and that work was completed.

Additional accomplishments:

1. The overall goal this year for me was to improve the communication between the Department Head and the faculty (both full-time and adjunct). This involved talking with faculty as issues came up and serving as a liaison between faculty and the Dean's office.
2. Updated facilities: Offices 321 B, 317 A – D, 359, 360 B, C, D and E were painted.
3. Completion of a sign outside 321 Main to identify the disciplines in the Language and Thought department and the Visual Arts department.
4. Updated our adjunct office: 357 Main was painted and new chairs were purchased for this space.
5. Updated the tables and chairs in 339 Main (classroom/workspace for The Collegiate).
6. Curriculum work and revisions: 19 courses were on our curriculum revision list at the beginning of this academic year. Some courses were due for review in 2014-2015. Of those 19, 6 were discontinued and 9 were updated. 4 JR courses still need to be updated which will be done in conjunction with the Program Review for Pre-Multimedia Journalism.
7. Creation of the COM Studies Pre-Major – Pre-Communication Studies
8. Updated (ongoing) the Language and Thought webpage and worked on department promotion (ongoing).
9. Improve communication with and appreciation of the Language and Thought adjunct faculty (ongoing): I am working hard to improve this communication by talking individually with adjunct on a regular basis.
10. Hillery Haney led a Study Away trip – May, 2017.
11. Jeff Winkle, Hillery Haney, and Carmela Zapata all completed proposals to lead Study Away trips next summer (2018). All three proposals were accepted.
12. Improved communication about Middle College/Concurrent Enrollment courses: I had many conversations about the proper courses for Middle College/Concurrent Enrollment. With the help and support of Jennifer Batten, I talked to Dan Clark about the proper placement of HU 210 in this curriculum. At this point (May, 2017), the course is not properly placed so these conversations are ongoing.
13. In April, two COM Studies students were each awarded \$600 for the John Regenmorter Scholarship.
14. Hillery Haney presented at Learning Day in Winter, 2017.
15. Dennis Sutton participated in a panel discussion about healthy relationships (April, 2017).

16. Michelle Wolner served as a facilitator for Great Teachers Seminar (May, 2016).
17. Additional College Service: Hillery Haney served on the Honors Committee, Mike Rydman served on AGC, Hillery Haney, Dennis Sutton, and Carmela Zapata all served on Rank/Portfolio committees, Bernie Manker served on Faculty Council, and Carmela Zapata served on the Graduation Team.
18. The hiring committee for the HU position was completed summer of 2016 and included Mary Lucas, Tamara Scott, and Mike Rydman. Jianchu Chen and Bernie Manker had dinner with the candidates, Gretchen Robinson did the on-campus tours for the candidates, and Bernie Manker sat in on the teaching demonstrations.
19. Tamara Scott represents our department on the General Education committee. We needed representation on this committee and Tamara has done a great job of talking with other faculty about their courses and serving as a resource to that committee in regards to the COM classes and MTA.
20. At the request of Provost Chesley, we documented minimum qualifications for all of the disciplines in our department.
21. Carmela Zapata awarded scholarships through her scholarship fund that is set up for Latino students that are interested in pursuing a teaching career.
22. Dennis Sutton worked with the publishers of our COM 135 textbook to do a custom edition.
23. Mike Rydman researched OER for Philosophy 201 and made this change.
24. Gretchen Robinson (WIN Advisor) and the WIN students opened the first Gender Equity/Women's Center.
25. Gretchen Robinson and WIN coordinated a very successful Feminist Art Show at the GRCC Collins Art Gallery which involved students from GRCC, GVSU, Aquinas and Kendall.



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### ***Departmental Professional Development***

In this section, please provide details about your department's emphasis for professional development during this year. Please limit your response to the space provided in the text box below.

Last year's report stated our focus would be Curriculog training. We did not hold a formal training session in Curriculog, but faculty members did use Curriculog this year to complete course updates and did communicate with and meet with Katie Daniels individually about how to use Curriculog. These individual meetings are more effective than the large group training.

Bernie Manker, Hillery Haney, and Carmela Zapata attended the Great Teachers Seminar (May, 2016).

Tamara Scott met with our book representative for the Public Speaking text to familiarize herself with the online content available to us.

Jianchu Chen attended the DeVos Medical Ethics Colloquy at GVSU.

Many faculty read books as a part of their Professional Development this year.

In January 2017, Rowan O'Dougherty attended Deafhood 101 Workshops sponsored by the Deafhood Foundation.

Hillery Haney attended (6/16) a Study Away Risk Management Training at Northwestern University



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### ***Departmental Advising Plan & Outcomes***

In this section, please describe your department's advising plan and outcomes for this year. Please limit your response to the space provided in the text boxes below.

COM Studies: We scheduled walk-in advising hours the week of registration.

Foreign Languages: The Foreign Language faculty set aside 20 minutes at the end of class during advising week to answer questions about courses, programs at 4-year colleges and universities, and jobs.

Humanities: As students asked questions about Humanities courses, Jeff talked informally with them.

Philosophy: The Philosophy faculty set aside 10 minutes at the end of each class during advising week.

### ***Program Accreditation Updates***

In this section, please provide details regarding any program accreditation or re-accreditation that occurred this past year, if applicable. Please limit your response to the space provided in the text boxes below.



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N/A

### ***Perkins & Key Performance Indicators***

In this section, please discuss Perkins and Key Performance Indicators for programs (total student enrollment, demographic profile, new students, student progress rate (transferred, graduated, enrolled), number of graduates, graduate employment rate, time to completion), if applicable. Please limit your response to the space provided in the text boxes below.



The following are the 2016 Key Performance Indicators for the Pre-Journalism program:

Total student enrollment: 31

Demographic profile: The average age is 21. 48% of students are full-time and 52% are part-time. 48% are female and 52% are male. 52% of students identify as white, 26% identify as Black, 13% identify as Hispanic and 10% identify as "other or unknown."

New students: 14

Student progress rate (transferred, graduated, enrolled): 59%

Number of graduates: 0

Graduate employment rate: N/A

Time to completion: N/A



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### ***Learning Outcomes Assessment Data & Findings on Past Year's Projects***

In this section, please summarize your department's assessment work for this year, outlining the Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) or Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILOs) assessed, the assessment measure, the findings, and the improvements planned based on the findings. Please limit your response to the space provided in the text boxes below.

Please see attached.



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### Part II: Plan for Upcoming Year

Part II is intended to provide a guide for your department's plans for the upcoming year with regards to the following: Operational Goals and/or Plans, Curriculum Goals and/or Plans, Learning Outcomes Assessment Plans, and Advising Plans. When answering the questions or completing the sections below, please consider the main points/highlights of each category.

#### *A. Operational Goals and/or Plans*

What are your departmental goals and plans for 2017-18?

1. Continue discussions about the addition of full-time faculty in our department.



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What new information from external sources has influenced your planning for next year?

N/A

Are your goals targeting any Perkins or Key Performance indicators? If yes, please explain.

N/A





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What resources do you need to accomplish your departmental goals for the upcoming year?

N/A

Do you need support from other departments to accomplish these goals? If yes, please explain.

N/A



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Do you need professional development in order to accomplish these goals? If yes, please explain.

N/A

For each of your departmental goals/plans/projects, please list the name of the lead faculty member(s) involved.

1. Continue discussions about the addition of full-time faculty in our department – Mary Lucas.

For each of your departmental goals/plans/projects, please provide a brief timeline for completion.

1. Continue discussions about the addition of full-time faculty in our department - ongoing

***B. Curriculum Goals and/or Plans***

What are your departmental curriculum development goals and plans for 2017-18?

1. To complete all course reviews.
2. To complete program review for the Pre-Multimedia Journalism Program.
3. Continue making revisions to the Humanities curriculum.

Review of Department's Curriculum Transferability

*Please note: this section should be completed by all SAS Departments, Business, and CIS.*

Using transferability data provided by Instructional Support, please summarize your perceptions of how courses in your department transfer to our four-year university partners and how this understanding will impact your curriculum goals for the upcoming year.

The overwhelming majority of courses in our department transfer either as direct credit or general credit. This supports the high transferability rate of our courses. We will continue to complete course revisions as they come up for review.

While this data shows the transferability rate of the JR courses is pretty good, we plan to revise these courses as a part of the Pre-Multimedia Journalism program review this academic year.



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What new information from external sources has influenced your curriculum development planning for next year?

The KPI analysis for the Pre-Multimedia Journalism program.

Are your curriculum development goals targeting any Perkins or Key Performance Indicators? If yes, please explain.

Yes. We hope to see an increase in the students who select the Pre-Multimedia Journalism pre-major, but I am not sure this will be evident in 2017-2018 because we are going through the program review process this year.

We did complete a revision of the pre-major, but based on course review, more revisions will be made. Jennifer Ackerman-Haywood is planning to do some recruiting with her editorial staff. She plans to connect with local high schools.



What resources do you need to accomplish these curriculum development goals?

Continued support from the Instructional Support office.

Do you need support from other departments to accomplish these curriculum development goals? If yes, please explain.

N/A

For each of your departmental curriculum development goals/plans/projects, please list the name of the lead faculty member(s) involved.

1. To complete all course revisions – individual faculty
2. To complete program review for the Pre-Multimedia Journalism Program – Mary Lucas and Jennifer Ackerman-Haywood
3. Continue making revisions to the Humanities curriculum – Jeff Winkle



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For each of your departmental curriculum development goals/plans/projects, please provide a brief timeline for completion.

The goal is to complete all of these by the end of this academic year, following the due dates from the Dean of Instructional Support.

### ***C. Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan for 2017-18***

In this section, please outline your department's plan for learning outcomes assessment work for the upcoming academic year, outlining the Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) or Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILOs) that will be assessed as well as the assessment instruments/measure that will be used. Please limit your response to the space provided in the text boxes below.

Individual faculty will decide on ILO's or CLO's to assess and these assessment projects will be documented in their individual FPE plans and reports.



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### ***D. Departmental Advising Plan for 2017-18***

In this section, please outline your department’s advising plan for the upcoming academic year. Please limit your response to the space provided in the text box below.

Our advising plan is to continue advising in the way we have done in the past. This varies based on discipline (see above). In COM Studies, we are interested to see if the student advising traffic will increase with the implementation of the Pre-Major. This may also be impacted by the introduction of the Pathway.

### **Part III: 2016-17 Faculty & Staff Accomplishments/Awards**

**Part III is intended to provide a space to share the accomplishments, awards, and/or accolades achieved by faculty and staff in your department during the course of this past year.**

Hillery Haney and her colleague at GVSU Dan Golembeski applied for and received a grant to run a French Film Festival. This took a great deal of time (May – November) and energy and she did an excellent job. This work included picking films, scheduling the films, publicizing the films, and coordinating to have a film director talk to her French class and working with her colleagues at GVSU to create this opportunity for our community. Hillery and Dan are applying for this grant again so hopefully we will get to host this event again.

In January 2017, The Collegiate was named Michigan Press Association College Newspaper of the Year and many students won awards for their articles and photos.

The Collegiate won 14 awards from the Michigan Community College Press Association (MCCPA) at the annual conference at Central Michigan University. The awards included second place in Division I for an online newspaper and editor-in-Chief Kayla Tucker won first place in the Student Journalist of the Year category.

Collegiate Adviser Jennifer Ackerman-Haywood was named President of the MCCPA.

Adjunct faculty in Philosophy Daniel Jesse presented a paper at the 2017 Meeting of the Society for Continental Philosophy and Theology at Furman University in Greenville, SC. His paper is entitled "An Invitation to Sorrow-Saturating our Liturgy With Sadness."

Jeff Winkle completed the New Faculty Institute.

Jeff Winkle facilitated at the Calvin College Biduum Latinum Calvinianum, a 2-day conference in spoken Latin.

In the fall, Jeff Winkle finished a book chapter entitled "C.S. Lewis' 'Voyage of the Dawn Treader' and Apuleius' 'Metamorphoses' which was recently published in "Classical Traditions in Modern Fantasy," Oxford University Press.

Mary Lucas was promoted to "Professor."

Adjunct faculty in Philosophy Tyler Klaskow won the Pew Teaching Excellence Award for Part-Time Faculty at GVSU.



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*Thank you for completing this report. Please submit to your Dean via email.*