SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

Senate Committee on University Priorities
Memorandum

TO: Senate

FROM:

John Waterhous

Chair, SCUP

Vice President Academic

RE:

Report of the External Review of

English (SCUP 06-13)

DATE:

March 15, 2006

At its February 22, 2006 meeting SCUP reviewed the report of the External Review of English, the response from the department, and the response from the Dean of Arts and Social Sciences.

Motion

SCUP recommends to Senate that the Department of English and the Dean of Arts and Social Sciences be advised to pursue the following as priority items:

- 1. The Department should continue to review and revise its undergraduate course offerings to balance pedagogical issues (such as theoretical approaches, course credit loads) with administrative issues (such as capping the percentage of enrolments in Distance education courses).
- 2. The Department should continue to examine and address the following issues related to its graduate programs; graduate student funding and support, collection and management of data on graduate students, and the promotion of graduate student research.
- 3. The Department should continue to monitor its faculty complement with particular regard to the workload for mid-career faculty, availability of faculty supervisors to graduate students, and reliance on sessional teaching. Plans for improvements in these areas should be developed in consultation with the Dean's Office.
- 4. The Department should, with the assistance of the Dean's Office and Human Resources, review staffing and administrative workload, and implement changes to better balance the distribution of workload among staff.

encl.

c: J. Pierce

T. Grieve