Executive Summary
Graduate Programs in Spanish
Cyclical Review 2012-2013

Approved by the Graduate Program Evaluation Committee
Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies
Meeting of January 21, 2015

<table>
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<th>Name of Program Reviewed</th>
<th>Spanish</th>
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| Degrees                  | • Doctorat en philosophie (Ph.D.) en Espagnol / Doctorate in Philosophy (PhD) in Spanish  
                            • Maîtrise ès arts (M.A.) en Espagnol / Master of Arts (MA) in Spanish |
| Final Evaluation         | • Good quality program with report required for the Master of Arts (MA) in Spanish (Report in three years – February 2018)  
                            • Good quality program with report required for Doctor of Philosophy in Spanish (Report in three years – February 2018) |

Strengths of the Program

The Spanish program is considered excellent and distinguishes itself from other programs of similar size in several ways. The external and internal evaluators highlighted the large number of publications produced by master’s and doctoral students in the Spanish graduate programs, as well as the excellence of the program’s language lab. Thanks to a series of meetings and conferences, this program’s professors are very involved in university life, which contributes to the students’ feelings of belonging to their program and promotes scientific research within the discipline. Recent changes to the courses offered and a rationalization of the academic stream have made the program even more efficient and attractive, both at the master’s and at the doctoral level. The excellence of the graduate training is reflected in the high rate of student placement, which greatly exceeds the Canadian average.

Areas for Improvement

Budgetary restrictions and the freezing of certain positions threaten the viability of this excellent program. The evaluators felt that the current number of professors (7) should be maintained to ensure adequate supervision of graduate students. Any reduction in the number of professors will affect the quality of the program and limit its potential to expand and its efforts to recruit international and Francophone students. Moreover, students in this program require more space to work, both to perform their teaching assistant duties and to conduct their own research, since they currently share very cramped workspaces.

Recommendations

1. Ensure that the program continues to have enough professors to guarantee that graduate students are properly supervised. Given the retirements that are currently planned, a short-term action plan is required.
2. Provide additional workspaces to students in the program in order to comply with provincial standards in this regard.
3. Pursue efforts to recruit international and Francophone students.
4. Continue to monitor completion rates and time-to-completion, particularly at the doctoral level.

Implementation plan

Calendar and deadlines
Recommendations 1 and 2 should be addressed in a report to be submitted in 12 months (February 2016). Recommendations 3 and 4 are to be addressed in the next cyclical review, which will be completed within seven years and no later than 2021.

Authorities
The authorities responsible for implementing these recommendations and following up on them include the dean and vice-dean of the Faculty of Arts, the director of the School of Modern Languages and Literatures, and the person in charge of the Spanish program.