

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

EP.10.35

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JAN 04 2010

OFFICE OF THE SENATE

Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor
for Academic Affairs

Swanlund Administration Building
601 East John Street
Champaign, IL 61820



January 4, 2010

Abbas Aminmansour, Chair
Senate Committee on Educational Policy
Office of the Senate
228 English Building, MC-461

Dear Professor Aminmansour:

Enclosed is a copy of a proposal from the Graduate College and College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to establish a Graduate Minor in Asian American Studies.

This proposal has been approved by the College Executive Committee and Graduate College Executive Committee. It now requires Senate review.

Sincerely,

Kristi A. Kuntz
Assistant Provost

KAK/dkk

Enclosures

c: D. Dutta
A. Elli
V. Kudaligama
C. Livingstone
A. Mester
L. Nakamura

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN



Graduate College
204 Coble Hall, MC-322
801 South Wright Street
Champaign, IL 61820-6210
www.grad.illinois.edu

RECEIVED
DEC 21 2009
OFFICE of the PROVOST

December 17, 2009

Kristi Kuntz
Assistant Provost
Office of the Provost
207 Swanlund, MC-304

Dear Kristi:

Enclosed is the proposal entitled "Establish a Graduate Minor in Asian American Studies." The Graduate College Executive Committee did vote unanimously to approve it.

I send it to you now for further review.

Sincerely,

Debasish Dutta
Dean of the Graduate College

Enclosure

cc: A. Mester
L. Nakamura
V. Kudaligama

STANDARD GRADUATE MINOR APPROVAL FORM

Title of the proposed minor: Graduate Minor in Asian American Studies

Sponsoring unit(s): Asian American Studies Program

College Sponsor: Ann M. Mester, Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences;
mester@illinois.edu; 3-1350

Date: May 2009

Description of program of study:

The graduate minor offers training in Asian American theories and methodologies for graduate students who wish to incorporate Asian American Studies into their degree work. The graduate minor provides students with a strong background in the history and culture of Asian Americans and a theoretical and methodological foundation in social scientific and humanistic approaches. The program will enable students to assess the historical and contemporary experiences of Asian Americans in local, national, and global contexts, and provide training in comparative and interdisciplinary methodologies. Since Asian American Studies offers interdisciplinary analytic frameworks which interconnect with scholarship in area studies, postcolonial studies, and globalization studies, and has increasingly become a crucial category of analysis across a range of disciplines in the humanities and social sciences, the graduate minor strengthens and enlarges students' formal credentials and provides a versatile area of specialization.

Requirements:

Hours

- | | |
|----|--|
| 4 | AAS 501: Theory and Methods in Asian American Studies or AAS 561: Race and Cultural Critique |
| 8 | Two graduate courses from an approved list of Asian American Studies courses at either the 400 or 500 level. |
| 4 | AAS 590: Asian Am Studies Seminar |
| 16 | TOTAL |

AAS 501, 561 and AAS 590 will be offered once a year in alternating semesters. Only 4 hours of course credit can be cross-listed with the students' disciplinary unit.

Prerequisites for the minor:

Applicants must be in good academic standing in a graduate or professional program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Expected enrollment in the minor:

We anticipate that within three years the program will enroll approximately 40 minors.

Admission to the minor:

Applicants must submit a written statement as to why they wish to minor in Asian American Studies, demonstrate successful completion of one course in Asian American Studies at the undergraduate or graduate level, and provide written approval to pursue the minor from their graduate advisor and graduate program director. The written statement should specifically discuss how the student's prior academic training and/or work experiences are related to Asian American Studies, how a graduate minor in Asian American Studies fits in to their major academic program on campus, as well as how the minor would contribute to future professional development. The student should also submit written approval from the primary advisor (in the home department) and the Director of Graduate Studies in the home department to pursue the Asian American Studies graduate minor.

Minor advisor:

The student will declare a minor advisor affiliated with the Asian American Studies Program. The advisor for the graduate minor will coordinate with the Assistant Director and Director of the Asian American Studies Program in writing, to approve course selection for meeting the requirements.

Certification of successful completion:

Progress and certification of the graduate minor will be monitored by the Assistant Director and Director of the Asian American Studies. In addition, for the Graduate Minor in Asian American Studies to appear on the academic transcript, the student must successfully petition the Graduate College to add the Graduate Minor in Asian American Studies to their academic records.

Budgetary and staff implications:**Additional Staff and Dollars:**

No additional staff or dollars are needed.

Internal Relocations:

This will require a commitment from Asian American Studies to offer AAS 501 and AAS 590 every year and five to six graduate level courses a year. This should not be a problem given that we already offer a consistent number of graduate level courses taught each semester and have a growing faculty. Currently, the Program has one 100 percent and seven 50 percent faculty and many faculty affiliates. The affiliates include six tenured core faculty members with teaching duties, but no line weight. We anticipate that after AY 2007-08, the total number of faculty in our unit with 25% or more appointments will rise to a total of eleven. Both the percent-time faculty and faculty affiliates consistently offer graduate levels courses each semester.

Effect on course enrollment:

The related units/fields of study at the University that would complement a graduate minor in Asian American Studies include: Afro-American Studies, American Indian Studies,

Anthropology, Communications Research, Community Health, Comparative Literature, Curriculum and Instruction, East Asian Languages & Cultures, Educational Policy Studies, Educational Psychology, English, Gender and Women's Studies, History, Human and Community Development, Latina Latino Studies, Law, Leisure Studies, Library and Information Science, Medicine, Political Science, Psychology, Social Work, Sociology, and Speech Communication. We are in the process of compiling letters of support from these units. By formalizing the field, the minor will enhance interdisciplinary contact and help in solidifying the field.

Effect on library, computer use, laboratory use, equipment:

There will be no impact on library and computer use.

Statement for the catalog:

Asian American Studies Program

Director: Lisa Nakamura

Program Office: 1208 West Nevada, Urbana, (217) 244-9530

Graduate Minor: Asian American Studies

Graduate Degree Program

The Asian American Studies Program offers a graduate minor in Asian American Studies that is interdisciplinary in nature. The graduate minor is designed to complement the graduate work of the students' area of concentration.


Admission

Students must be in good academic standing in a graduate or professional program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and demonstrate an interest in Asian American Studies. Those wishing to apply to the minor must submit a written statement indicating why they wish to pursue the minor, demonstrate successful completion of one course in Asian American Studies at the undergraduate or graduate level, and provide written approval to pursue the minor from their graduate advisor and graduate program director. The written statement should specifically discuss how the student's prior academic training and/or work experiences are related to Asian American Studies, how a graduate minor in Asian American Studies fits in to their major academic program on campus, as well as how the minor would contribute to future professional development. The written statement and other supporting material must be submitted to the Assistant Director or Director of the Asian American Studies Program.

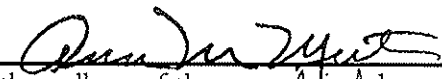
Degree Requirements:

Required Courses:	Required Hours
AAS 501 or AAS 561	4
AAS 590	4
Two graduate courses from an approved list of Asian American Studies courses at either the 400 or 500 level.	8
Total Hours:	16
Other Requirements:*	
<p>In addition to the minor requirements, students must also complete the requirements of their major degree. Only 4 hours of course credit can be cross-listed with the students' disciplinary unit. Please contact your department for more information.</p> <p>For the Graduate Minor in Asian American Studies to appear on the academic transcript, the student must successfully petition the Graduate College to add the Graduate Minor in Asian American Studies to their academic records</p>	

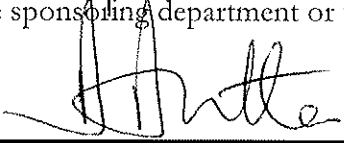
CLEARANCES:

5/13/09

Head/chair of the sponsoring department or unitDate

5/29/09

Dean of the college of the sponsoring department or unitDate

12-18-09

Dean of the Graduate CollegeDate

Chair, Senate Educational Policy CommitteeDate

APPENDIX A: AAS GRADUATE LEVEL COURSES

(Note: Underlined rubric indicate permanent course ownership.)

Currently available:

EPS 402/AAS 402 Asian American Education

LLS 435/AAS 435 Commodifying Difference

ANTH 484 / AAS 484 Asian Diasporas

AAS 450 Asian American Ethnic Groups

LLS 465 / AAS 465 / AFRO 465 / GWS 365 Race, Sex and Deviance

PSYC 470 / AAS 470 Asian American Psychology

LLS 479 / AAS 479 / ANTH 479 Race, Medicine and Society (new course in Spring '09)

GWS 485 / AAS 485 Politics of Fashion

AAS 501 Theory and Methods in AAS

HCD 539 / AAS 539 / EPS 539 Youth Culture & Society

AAS 561 / AFRO 531 / ANTH 561 / GWS 561 / GWS 561 Race and Cultural Critique

AAS 590 Comparative Race Studies: Theories and Methods

APPENDIX B: AAS TEACHING FACULTY

Core Faculty

Nancy Abelmann

Lisa Cacho

Augusto Espiritu

Moon-Kie Jung

Susan Koshy

Soo Ah Kwon

Esther Kim Lee

Martin Manalansan

Lisa Nakamura

Mimi Nguyen

Fiona Ngô

Kent Ono

Yoon Pak

Junaid Rana

Yutian Wong

Affiliate Faculty

Pallassana R. Balgopal (Emeritus)

http://www.aasp.uiuc.edu/p_charlesc.htmlWend

y K. Tam Cho

Poshek Fu

Adrienne Lo

Sumie Okazaki (on leave)

R.V. Pandharipande

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Department of African American Studies
1201 West Nevada Street, MC-143
Urbana, IL 61801



September 21, 2009

Lisa Nakamura
Director, Asian American Studies Program
1208 West Nevada Street, MC-142
Urbana, IL 61801-3818

Dear Lisa,

As head of the Department of African American Studies (DAAS) it is my pleasure to offer this letter in support of the Asian American Studies Program's proposed Graduate minor. The minor will be a welcome complement to the Graduate Concentration and Minor that is currently available in DAAS. I am particularly compelled by the breadth and scope of course offerings within the proposed minor covering methods, theories, and comparative studies. Like other graduate minors, these core areas will not only be available to doctoral students in traditional humanities and social science disciplines, but also will strengthen and extend the overall methodological and conceptual cores among the culturally specific units. This is especially significant among these units because appropriate methods and methodologies as well as indigenous theories and concepts have been elided from the curriculum here at Illinois for far too long. With the advent of the Asian American Studies graduate minor we are one step closer to offering a complete multicultural curriculum aligned with the rather diverse twenty-first century student population here at Illinois. Besides the previously mentioned advantages to the introduction of an Asian American Studies graduate minor, such a minor will also support the Illinois effort to produce students with interdisciplinary training. Certainly, we expect that this program will support the PhD program that DAAS intends to establish in the near future.

Without the slightest hesitation DAAS offers its full support of the Asian American Studies Program's proposed graduate minor. We look forward to one day welcoming its departmental status along with a baccalaureate degree program as well. If you have any questions or would like any additional information from me please feel free to contact me at identity@illinois.edu.

Sincerely,

Ronald L. Jackson II
Department Head

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

American Indian Studies Program
1204 West Nevada Street, MC-138
Urbana, IL 61801-3818



September 14, 2009

Lisa Nakamura, Director
Asian American Studies Program
1208 W. Nevada St.
MC-139

Dear Professor Nakamura,

I am writing in strong support of the proposal by your program to create a Graduate Minor in Asian American Studies. Having read the proposal, I can see that the proposed minor would provide an excellent opportunity for many graduate students to gain training in Asian American studies as part of their graduate programs.

American Indian Studies stands to gain from your proposed minor in many ways, not least through the increasing level of sustained attention to scholarly approaches to critical and comparative issues of race, ethnicity, and culture that are so lucidly described in the proposal.

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance. I look forward to hearing more about the proposal as it wends its way through the approval process.

All best wishes,

Robert Warrior
Director
Professor of American Indian Studies, English, and History

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

RECEIVED
OCT 29 2009
GRADUATE COLLEGE

Department of Anthropology

College of Liberal Arts and Science
109 Davenport Hall, MC-148
607 South Mathews Avenue
Urbana, IL 61801



21 October 2009

Dear Prof. Nakamura,

Thank you very much for the opportunity to comment on your recent proposal for a graduate minor in Asian American studies. I am pleased to offer the support of the Department of Anthropology for this proposal.

This minor should be expected to make a significant impact on campus. As indicated in the proposal, a number of units can benefit from the presence of this minor, certainly including Anthropology. I would anticipate that several of our current and perhaps future students will be interested in the minor, given that it is sure to complement existing coursework in our department.

Your letter requesting my evaluation included mention of Anthropology 484, Asian Diasporas. Specifically, you inquired as to whether or not we would anticipate teaching this course in the future, given that it would support your minor. I anticipate that we will continue to offer Anth 484, and that the course can contribute to the minor. We are certainly willing to have it count in your minor program.

Thanks again for this request. If I can offer further information or support, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Steven R. Leigh
Head and Professor

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN

Department of Communication
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
1207 West Oregon Street
Urbana, IL 61801



RECEIVED
OCT 27 2009
GRADUATE COLLEGE

Lisa Nakamura
Director, Asian American Studies
228 Gregory Hall
810 S. Wright Street
M/C 463

Dear Lisa:

I write in support of your application for a graduate minor in Asian American Studies. I believe that this minor would complement quite a few graduate master's and doctoral degree programs across campus. We have several students now in our Communication graduate program for whom such a minor would be appropriate (e.g., a student who is studying media representations of Asian Americans).

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me.

My best regards,

Dale Brashers
David L. Swanson Professorial Scholar
Professor and Head, Communication
Professor, Medicine

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Institute of Communications Research

College of Communications
228 Gregory Hall
810 South Wright Street
Urbana, IL 61801 USA

October 22, 2009

Professor Lisa Nakamura
Director, Asian American Studies
1208 West Nevada St., MC-142
Urbana, IL 61801**RECEIVED****OCT 29 2009****GRADUATE COLLEGE**

Dear Professor Nakamura:

I write to express our support for the establishment of a Graduate Minor in Asian American Studies. Our doctoral students whose research interests dovetail with those of your unit would greatly benefit from this minor as it provides them with a theoretical and methodological foundation for the pursuit of Asian American Studies within their major focus on Communications Research.

However the significance of this proposed minor applies much more broadly throughout campus. It will fill a significant void in the availability of curricular offerings to our graduate students. While we at ICR have long been committed to global and ethnic issues, the presence of Asian American Studies and the availability of a graduate minor promises to enrich the intellectual experience of a large number of students in a range of graduate departments. In my unit over the years students have been expressing interest in these courses and they have not been available. Or they express an interest in this topic and we do not always know which courses or faculty to suggest. The guided approach to the minor, with the core course on "Theory and Methods in Asian American Studies" brings together in one setting what in the past students had to piece together from a number of courses. The inclusion of a minor advisor will further facilitate student progress and coordination. I anticipate the impact on our academic unit will be extremely positive. The impact on campus will further cement our excellence in the pursuit of ethnic and area studies.

The implementation and coherence of this minor are very solid. I support this proposal most enthusiastically.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Angharad N. Valdivia".

Angharad N. Valdivia
Head, Media and Cinema Studies
Interim Director, Media and Cinema Studies

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Program in Comparative and World Literature
3072 Foreign Languages Building, MC-160
707 South Mathews Avenue
Urbana, IL 61801



October 28, 2009

Professor Lisa Nakamura, Director
Asian American Studies Program

Dear Professor Nakamura,

This is a letter in support of the proposal to establish a graduate minor in Asian American Studies.

The global framework of the degree, the combination of contemporary and historical approaches, and the focus on comparative, interdisciplinary methodologies makes the proposed degree particularly suited to the training of our students.

A growing number of them specialize in Asian literatures and cultures and many are interested in their diasporic aspects. A minor such as the one you are proposing can only add to their preparation as scholars of transnational symbolic practices.

Sincerely,

Jean-Philippe Mathy, Director
Program in Comparative and World Literature

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Department of Educational Psychology
College of Education
226 Education Building
1310 South Sixth Street
Champaign, IL 61820



September 14, 2009

Lisa Nakamura, Director
Asian American Studies Program
1208 West Nevada St., MC-142

Dear Lisa,

The Department of Educational Psychology supports the Asian American Studies Program proposal to develop a Graduate Minor in Asian American Studies. It is difficult for me to comment with any authority on the significance of such a minor on our campus, although it seems quite reasonable to say, given the ever-growing interest of higher education programs in cross-cultural studies, that this kind of minor is likely to be appealing to graduate students in a number of areas in the socio-behavioral sciences. Some of our Ph.D. students in the department may find this minor of particular significance as they pursue studies in cross-cultural psychology.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas A. Schwandt".

Thomas A. Schwandt, Ph.D.
Professor & Chair



ILLINOIS

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
Curtis Perry, Head

608 South Wright Street
Urbana, Illinois 61801
phone: 217-333-2390
fax: 217-333-4321
email: cperry@illinois.edu

September 30, 2009

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my support for the proposal put forward by the Asian American Studies Program for the creation of a Graduate Minor in AAS. Since I think the internal intellectual rationale is fairly self-evident in this case, and since I am in no position to comment upon curricular matters beyond my own department, let me briefly explain why I think the creation of an AAS graduate minor would have a positive impact upon English (and, by extension, upon other humanities units within LAS).

As I see it, the benefit to English of this proposal would essentially be two-fold. First, it would make it possible for any English Department graduate students working on dissertations related to Asian American or comparative American ethnicity to get extra disciplinary training (and earn an additional credential) that might help deepen their scholarly work and set them apart from others in an increasingly competitive academic job market. The same could presumably be said for other units with grad students working in fields related to Asian American Studies. Given our current staffing in English, I would imagine that this might benefit a range of grad students in literature and film studies, especially. Our film studies faculty is especially deeply versed in Asian film traditions, so I can see great potential for collaboration with AAS in that area in particular. I can also imagine students in Writing Studies and Creative Writing wishing to avail themselves of such an opportunity, though current departmental staffing makes that less likely at present.

Second, I believe that this proposal will help encourage some English graduate students to look beyond the department for faculty to help them with their work. One of the important challenges facing English and other allied humanities units in the coming years will be to increase collaborative graduate education and so share capacity and maximize the benefit of faculty expertise across the college. English has some faculty in Asian American Studies, but the existence of this minor will help reinforce the point that there are also faculty in other departments who have something to offer our students working on AAS-related projects too. In general, I believe that it will be very important going forward within LAS to develop structures that can facilitate collaborative, interdisciplinary graduate mentoring.

I hope that this letter proves helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

Curtis Perry
Professor and Dept. Head

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



Gender & Women's Studies Program
911 South Sixth Street
Champaign, IL 61820

November 24, 2009

Lisa Nakamura
Asian American Studies Program
1208 W. Nevada,
MC-142

Dear Professor Nakamura,

I write to express GWS's support of your proposed Graduate Minor in Asian American Studies. Approval of the proposed graduate minor would not only constitute a timely and pivotal curricular step for the consolidation of the field of Asian American Studies on our campus, but will also speak to the incredible vitality and growing leadership of Asian American Studies in the academia. One only needs to look at the quality of the publications emerging from scholars in Asian American Studies over the past decade, or to witness the wild popularity of the Asian American Studies Association Annual Conference to recognize the necessity of providing quality education in this field for our students. I have reviewed the proposal and am excited at the prospect of the possibilities it opens up to our majors interested in race and ethnic studies and to our faculty whose research and teaching intersect with the areas of postcolonial studies, transnational studies, and cultural critique of race.

Over the years we in GWS have built solid intellectual, structural and curricular bonds with our fellow colleagues in Asian American Studies. GWS is fortunate to count among its core faculty two promising junior scholars jointly appointed with AAS, Dr. Mimi Nguyen and Dr. Fiona Ngô. Their involvement with the GWS curricular development and their dedication to the mentoring of our majors and graduate minors attest to, in my opinion, the importance of Asian American Studies trained scholars for intersectional gender and feminist studies. Additionally, the history of cross-listed courses between GWS and AAS reflects the strong collaboration between our units. Courses such as GWS/AAS 485 (controlled by GWS), *The Politics of Fashion* (and taught by Nguyen), GWS/AAS 435, *Commodifying Difference*, controlled by Latina/o Studies (LLS 435), GWS/AAS 465, *Race, Sex and Deviance*, controlled by Latina/o Studies (LLS 465) and finally GWS 561, *Race and Cultural Critique*, that will become a required course in your new Graduate Minor (ASS 561) provide intersectional approaches to studying gender,

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



Gender & Women's Studies Program
911 South Sixth Street
Champaign, IL 61820

race, ethnicity and sexuality and continue to be extremely popular with GWS students. With the Graduate Minor in Asian American Studies, we can expect a similar commitment toward cross-listing some of our variable topics as experienced in Spring 2008 when Fiona Ngô taught a graduate seminar: *Comparative Race Studies: Theories and Methodologies* (GWS/AAS 590).

In sum, GWS strongly and fully endorses your proposal, and sees that it enriches the mandate of our university to provide valuable and crucial training in diversity scholarship. I hope that you will contact me if you have any questions.

Yours,

Chantal Nadeau
Director and Professor,
Gender & Women's Studies Program

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Department of History

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
309 Gregory Hall, MC-466
810 South Wright Street
Urbana, IL 61801



September 23, 2009

Lisa Nakamura
Asian American Studies Program
1208 W. Nevada
MC-142

Dear Lisa,

The Department of History is pleased to support your proposal for a graduate minor in Asian American Studies. As you know, we cross-list courses with your unit and have graduate students who will look to the interdisciplinary minor as a way of enhancing their training in history. In turn, we expect that engagement with both the content and the methods on offer in the AAS minor will push them to think of their disciplinary training in new ways. Because the minor mobilizes a variety of analytical frameworks, it has potential to transform the intellectual trajectory of history graduate students in myriad ways. We see it as both a complement to our program and a fillip to the production of new forms of historical knowledge. We look forward to working with you.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Antoinette'.

Antoinette Burton
Professor and Chair

cc: Professor Diane Koenker

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Department of Human and Community Development

College of Agricultural, Consumer
and Environmental Sciences
274 Bevier Hall
905 South Goodwin Avenue
Urbana, IL 61801



November 5, 2009

Lisa Nakamura, Director
Asian American Studies
University of Illinois

Dear Dr. Nakamura:

I am writing to indicate my support for the proposal to establish a graduate minor in Asian American Studies. The program will be very attractive to students in our department as well as students from across campus. This is a great opportunity to build more strength in our ethnic studies programs.

Sincerely,

Robert Hughes, Jr.
Professor & Department Head

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



Latina/Latino Studies Program

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
510 East Chalmers Street, MC-495
Champaign, IL 61820

www.lls.uiuc.edu

Dear Prof. Nakamura:

This is a letter of the strongest support for the Graduate Minor in Asian American Studies. Asian American Studies on this campus and in the national field has a strong intellectual tradition, which is well represented in the Program of Study proposed for the Graduate Minor.

With regards to Latina/Latino Studies, the Graduate Minor in Asian American Studies allows graduate students in Latina/o Studies specializing in comparative ethnic studies to build a cohesive plan of study. Many of the Latina/o Studies graduate students already take courses across the ethnic and race studies units, so this will have minimal impact on Latina/Latino Studies courses offerings or instructional units, but high impact on the quality of educational experience for our graduate students. Similarly, because of the comparative focus of much of our courses, many Latina/Latino Studies professors cross-list their graduate courses with Asian American Studies and vice versa. Approving the Graduate Minor will only formalize the intellectual exchange that has already been occurring between our two Programs.

Finally, given that Asian Americans are one of the fastest growing demographic groups in the United States offering a Program of Study for graduate students in this area is key to the excellence of graduate education at the University of Illinois. Graduate students working in the areas of education, communication, sociology, health, and political science will have an opportunity to be introduced to this field in a critical way that will prepare them to be better teachers and scholars.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Isabel Molina Guzmán'.

Isabel Molina Guzmán
Latina/Latino Studies Program, Director
Associate Professor of Communications
Associate Professor of Latina/Latino Studies

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Graduate School of Library and Information Science
Library and Information Science Building
501 East Daniel Street
Champaign, IL 61820-6211



September 23, 2009

Lisa Nakamura, Director
Asian American Studies Program
1208 West Nevada Street, MC-142
Urbana, IL 61801-3818

Dear Director Nakamura:

I write with enthusiastic support for the Asian American Studies Program proposal to create a Graduate Minor in Asian American Studies.

The University as a whole would benefit from this Graduate Minor, in terms of breadth and scope of program opportunities, and the same may be said for GSLIS students. Among students in our professional Masters degree program, the particular value of this Minor would be realized by those exploring subject-area specialization in Asian American studies. We might also expect to see doctoral students with interests in Asian American Studies, perhaps most likely in our information history, economics, and policy area.

The Graduate Minor in Asian American Studies offers supplemental course options to GSLIS students and I see no conflicts between your proposed course offerings and those of our School. On the contrary, GSLIS allows its Masters students to take 12 hours of elective courses from other units, as part of our overall requirement of 40 hours, so a student who was interested in doing the Asian American Studies Graduate Minor would need only 44 hours to satisfy both your requirements and ours. Ph.D. students may take 16 of 80 hours outside GSLIS, so those students would be able to complete the Minor without extending their overall hours to graduation.

I am convinced of the potential of a Graduate Minor in Asian American Studies and I look forward to opportunities for our students and yours.

Sincerely,

John Unsworth
Dean and Professor

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **William Bernhard** <bernhard@illinois.edu>

Date: Tue, Sep 22, 2009 at 10:36 AM

Subject: Letter of Support

To: lnakamur@illinois.edu

Professor Nakamura,

Thank you very much for sharing your proposal for a Graduate Minor in Asian American Studies. It looks to be a compelling and interesting program that will benefit students across many disciplines on our campus. I can imagine that some political science students will find it of interest in the future.

The Department of Political Science does not offer any graduate level classes specifically in Asian-American politics. But we do offer a number of general classes that may be of interest to students in your program, including ones on racial & ethnic politics and interest groups politics.

One of our faculty, Professor Wendy Cho, is an affiliate faculty of the Asian-American Studies program. I anticipate that Professors Cara Wong and Jeff Mondak might also be good resources for your program.

I wish you all the best with your proposal and look forward to working with Asian-American Studies to contribute to this minor.

Best regards,
Bill Bernhard

William Bernhard
Professor and Head
Department of Political Science
240 Computer Applications Building (CAB)
605 E Springfield Avenue
University of Illinois
Champaign, IL 61820
Tel: 217 333 2602
Fax: 217 244 5712



Department of Psychology
603 E. Daniel St.
Champaign, IL 61820

Dr. Lisa Nakamura
Asian American Studies Program
1208 W. Nevada St.
Urbana, IL 61801-3818
MC142

October 1, 2009

Dear Dr. Nakamura,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to review the new Graduate Minor in Asian-American Studies you are proposing. The Department of Psychology supports the proposal. I am quite certain that some of our graduate students will want to avail themselves of this new minor, and the department will wholeheartedly support their doing so. I believe that several of them have already been taking many of the courses that constitute the minor anyway. I don't foresee any negative consequences for the Psychology Department or for the campus of the new minor.

Sincerely,

Susan M. Garnsey

Susan M. Garnsey, Ph.D
Associate Head for Graduate Affairs
Department of Psychology

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

School of Social Work
1010 West Nevada Street
Urbana, IL 61801



RECEIVED

OCT 09 2009

GRADUATE COLLEGE

September 29, 2009

Lisa Nakamura, Director
Asian American Studies Program
1208 West Nevada Street
MC-142

Dear Lisa:

The School of Social Work supports the proposal by AAS to create a Graduate Minor in Asian American Studies. We think there is a very good academic fit between this area of study and the interests of some of our graduate students. In particular, some of our doctoral students may choose this as their required focus area of study. Furthermore, the AAS graduate minor will enhance elective course options for our graduate students. The School of Social Work has enjoyed a positive and productive relationship with AAS over the years. We are pleased to be able to support this proposal.

Sincerely,

Wynne S. Korr
Dean and Professor

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Department of Sociology
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
326 Lincoln Hall, MC-454
702 South Wright Street
Urbana, IL 61801



OCT 29 2009
GRADUATE COLLEGE

October 16, 2009

Dr. Lisa Nakamura
Director
Asian-American Studies Department
1208 West Nevada Street, MC-142
Urbana, IL 61801-3818

Dear Lisa,

On behalf of the Sociology Department, I am writing to support the Asian-American Studies Program's proposal to create a Graduate Minor in Asian American Studies. The proposal outlines an exciting interdisciplinary program that will provide many opportunities for both graduate students and faculty to work together across disciplinary boundaries, generating productive new agendas for teaching and research.

Like scholars in many other fields, sociologists have increasingly embraced a problem-centered approach to research and teaching, and by adopting this approach, we have discovered that the theories, concepts and methods associated with a single discipline are rarely sufficient to answer the complex questions that we address. The great promise of this program is that it will provide graduate students with the theoretical and methodological tools they need to understand the historical and contemporary experiences of Asian American communities. And its interdisciplinary nature would make it a valuable partner to the many similar programs already thriving at the University.

We are proud to have one of our faculty members, Moon-Kie Jung, who is a member of the teaching faculty of AAS. We would happily support his interest in teaching courses that would satisfy the minor; I expect those courses would be interesting to our own graduate students, even those who might not be interested in pursuing the minor officially.

I expect that we have several graduate students already in the program who would be interested in pursuing this minor. Several of them are planning to conduct dissertation research on Asian American Studies topics. Moreover, the availability of the minor would be an invaluable recruiting tool for prospective graduate students by raising the profile of Asian American Studies on campus.

Thus, we fully support the AAS proposal for a Graduate Minor and would be happy to offer any additional assistance to have the proposal approved.

Sincerely,



Anna-Maria Marshall
Head
Sociology Department

cc: Julie Woolsey

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Department of Theatre

4-122 Krannert Center for the Performing Arts
500 South Goodwin Avenue
Urbana, IL 61801



November 6, 2009
Lisa Nakamura
Asian American Studies Program
1208 W. Nevada
MC-142
Urbana, Illinois 61801

Dear Professor Nakamura:

I am writing on behalf of the Department of Theatre to offer our strong support for the creation of a Graduate Minor in Asian American Studies. As you know, our program features the foremost American scholar on Asian and Asian American theatre, Dr. Esther Kim Lee. Plans for the future of our PHD program, include the aggressive recruitment of scholars that wish to concentrate on Asian and Asian-American theatre and performance. To this end, we both welcome and require a vigorous Asian American Studies program to supplement the core PHD courses we can offer in this area. The development of a Graduate Minor would be an invaluable addition to our program, and would doubtless result in many of our students seeking to combine Asian American Theatre with a Graduate Minor in Asian American Studies.

It is also self evident that the explosion of interest in Asian studies, reflecting the growing importance of Asia to American artists, intellectuals, and diplomats, argues persuasively for this program. The ability for graduate students in the humanities, arts, and languages to add Asian American Studies to their curriculum will be a tremendous asset to UIUC. We very enthusiastically endorse the creation of a Graduate Minor in Asian American Studies.

Sincerely,

Brant Pope
Head, Department of Theatre
University of Illinois