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 **Women and Gender Studies**

**Interim Assessment of New Program**

**Conducted by ASCRC,** 4/02/19

ASCRC has reviewed the Spring 2019 Interim Assessment report of the Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies Program, prepared by Elizabeth Hubble, Program Director, concerning the implementation of the WGSS B.A. in 2016. The WGSS program also offers a minor and a graduate certificate.

The B.A. in WGSS is an innovative and interdisciplinary program that is unique in the State of Montana. The B.A. did not require new hires. It is budget neutral. WGSS is administered by the Director in consultation with the WGSS executive committee.

The B.A. implementation relied on core courses already taught within its program and core faculty who take part in the curricula decisions, planning stages, and teaching across various disciplines. Courses are offered under the WGSS rubric and listed with departments in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, law, and education. The core course WGSS 263 S *Social and Political Perspectives on Gender and Sexuality* may be moved to an online format. Three of the five core courses are also general education courses.

Since its implementation, the B.A. has exceeded its target in majors, currently ca. 35- 42 students (with new majors signed on this semester) and 15 minors. Many students are double majors. It is an ongoing issue to report accurate numbers for secondary majors and all minors.

Since the reorganization of staff stabilized, WGSS now has access to administrative support. The position of the program director has also stabilized with the new instructional budget. Given the budgetary constraints the program has achieved great success, and aims to continue and broaden its growth.