



TO: Henri Gooren, Chair of Religious Studies
FROM: Elaine Carey, Dean of CAS
DATE: April 13, 2022
RE: Religious Studies Self Study

I thank Dr. Gooren and the faculty in the interdisciplinary Religious Studies for their work on the self-study. I also thank Dr. Mohammed Hassan Khalil for his external review. He has been an asset to the program. The self-study provides a detailed and thorough analysis of the program, and how it was changed over time.

The Religious Studies faculty continue to address some important issues within the area. Declining enrollments remain a concern. The faculty members and Dr. Khalil offered excellent suggestions for addressing enrollment declines. Those include revitalizing outreach to students, adding different aspects of spirituality with such as yoga and meditation, offering community programming, developing new tailored classes for schools. I recommend that the faculty embrace these recommendations and craft a plan to implement further enhancements to the program and to engagement. I also encourage them to develop benchmarks to document their progress.

College of Arts and Sciences

Varner Hall, Room 217 | 371 Varner Drive, Rochester, Michigan 48309-4485
(248) 370-2140 | Fax (246) 370-4280 | oakland.edu/cas



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