

**Academic Program Report, University of Victoria  
Faculty of Social Sciences, Sociology 2010**

**Summary:**

The Review Committee's report praised the Department for its research productivity noting that metrics of impact and citation counts place it among the top Sociology Departments in Canada.

The future strength of the Department hinges on success in the following areas: enhancing cohesion, communication, the Cultural, Social, and Political Thought program, and the development of a comprehensive strategic plan.

**Recommendations:**

- a) ***Enhancing Cohesion:*** The Department should identify ways to promote a common sense of purpose and more collaboration, for example, by means of more celebration events that highlight successes (book launches, grant successes, prize winning).
- b) ***Communication:*** The Department should identify vehicles, such as website enhancements or a regular newsletter or bulletin to promote a shared understanding of opportunities and improve the visibility of collegial successes.
- c) ***Cultural, Social, and Political Thought Program (CSPT):*** The Department should conduct an academic program review of the Cultural, Social, and Political Thought Program. Among other issues, this review should examine how faculty in the participating Departments are provided with the opportunity to teach CSPT courses, the possibility of cross-listing Departmental and CSPT courses, and scheduling.
- d) ***Graduate Program:*** The Department should identify how to improve students' timely completion of master and doctoral programs, for example, by formalizing an annual review of each graduate student's progress.
- e) ***Research:*** The Department should put in place a strategy to ensure a sustained, collective high level of scholarly output and impact especially as star senior scholars retire.
- f) ***Strategic Plan:*** A more comprehensive and specific Strategic Plan is essential and should involve input from all regular faculty members in the Department.