

PROPOSAL RECOMMENDATION FORM

(PAR FORM – revised 07-29-10)

PLEASE COMPLETE ALL SECTIONS OF THE FORM. INCOMPLETE SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE REVIEWED.

Date	April 10, 2013	
To	<input type="checkbox"/> College Assembly Committee <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deans Council <input type="checkbox"/> Faculty Senate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provost	
From	<input type="checkbox"/> Assembly Committee <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Academic Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Programmatic Committee	Committee ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMITTEE Committee Chair(s) and Ext: James Gramlich X. 6279 and Joseph Wachter X. 6157

Proposal/Recommendation:

The Academic Standards Committee proposes the creation of a **Distinction in International Perspectives** award for Harper students who have completed (1) twelve hours in interdisciplinary academic studies at Harper College, including the proposed 3-credit-hour “Introduction to International Perspectives” course, or an experiential or transfer course equivalent, and (2) an individual (or collaborative) Portfolio and Capstone project focused on learning outcomes in one of four key areas in international studies: (a) Communication and Community; (b) Social Justice, Equity, and Political Economy; (c) Cultural Awareness, Understanding, and Openness; or (d) Human Ecology, Globalization, and Sustainability.

- The Distinction would be indicated on the student’s transcript; the student and his or her work would be honored at Convocation, Graduation, and other campus-wide or community events.
- A student who earns the Distinction in International Perspectives will have demonstrated the capacity to consider intercultural and international perspectives across academic disciplines and the willingness to actively explore issues relating to global equity, justice, and peace.
- Each Distinction candidate will be supported through the Portfolio and Capstone activities by a faculty Distinction Coordinator and qualified faculty advisors.
- The Distinction Coordinator and a standing faculty Distinction Review Committee will assess each student’s work to determine if the student has completed the requirements of the Distinction or needs to complete further work. There is no time limit set in which students must complete the Distinction.
- The Distinction is dependent on learning outcomes and requirements that set and maintain standards of deep, permanent, and transformative learning.
- The Distinction’s purpose is to promote, acknowledge, and reward individual students’ real, life-changing growth during their studies at Harper College, eventually to lead to their becoming fully-conscious and committed citizens of the world.

Rationale:

- The Distinction in International Perspectives will be an integral aspect of international education opportunities already offered at Harper to both part-time and full-time students.
- The Distinction will be a unique point of pride as Harper becomes one of the first community colleges in the nation to establish a structure to integrate international studies throughout the college’s programs and curricula.

- The Distinction will draw upon the expertise of Harper faculty who are well-qualified to teach an international curriculum and to provide expert advising and coaching.
- The Distinction's academic design is an exceptional example of integrative learning; it requires students to demonstrate and apply theory to practice using a diversity of experiences and perspectives, including experiential learning.
- The Distinction integrates college success and life skills within new contexts in order to enhance students' workforce competencies.
- The Distinction promotes student engagement to increase retention; it requires deep learning experiences involving purposeful, relevant, and meaningful assignments.
- The Distinction offers students an opportunity to work closely with Harper faculty and exposes students to different cultures, creating a unique advantage for students' future employment, scholarship possibilities, and higher education experiences.
- The creation of the Distinction will spur further innovations in faculty development of internationally-focused curricula at Harper.
- The Distinction will create community and employer partnerships as the number of students pursuing international studies courses and the award itself grows.

Background Information: (Supporting data and documents, including pertinent surveys, information from open meetings, College forums, discussions with other College groups, legislative requirements or other resources.)

The proposed Distinction in International Perspectives is part of over a decade's work supported by many constituencies across campus:

- Harper faculty and ongoing administrative support for seminars, symposia, and international guest speakers;
- Guidance from Jill Izumikawa, International Students Office; faculty and counselors in the Center for Multicultural Learning; Colleen Tomanek, Coordinator of Study Abroad; Elke Weinbrenner, shared governance International Committee; Dr. Richard Johnson, Coordinator, International Studies & Programs; and Dr. Joan Kindle, Associate Provost.
- 2008 White Paper authored by Laura LaBauve, Associate Dean, Center for Multicultural Learning, and followed by a faculty and Multicultural Faculty Fellows retreat gathered to focus on rationale and strategies for making internationalization a central and unified focus on Harper's campus.
- Linda Campbell, Academic Standards Committee Co-Chair, brought the idea to develop an international graduation distinction to the Committee; a Distinction Subcommittee was formed in 2009 and led initially by Deans Sheryl Otto and Diana Sharp.
- Between 2009 and 2012, the Academic Standards Subcommittee and several taskforces met regularly to develop the learning outcomes, assessments, and structure of the Distinction.
- In 2010, several brown bag campus-wide discussions were held to elicit ideas and to gather task force and committee volunteers from administration and faculty.
- In 2011, Dr. Diana Sharp, working with the Standards Subcommittee and Chairs and Coordinators, developed a list of courses across disciplines currently offered on campus that would apply to the Distinction.
- In 2011, taskforce committees within the Subcommittee reached out to all administrators, counselors, and faculty on campus who expressed a willingness to offer feedback to the draft of the Distinction proposal.
- In Fall 2012, a draft proposal for the Distinction in International Perspectives was presented to the campus at large via email, an Orientation Week seminar, and three subsequent campus forums to elicit feedback from faculty and administration.
- The Distinction proposal was presented informally by the Subcommittee to Deans' Council in December 2012 with no changes recommended to the draft.

- The Distinction proposal was presented to Faculty Senate in February 2013; the Senate passed a motion offering full support with no changes recommended to the draft.
- In March 2013, Dr. Richard Johnson developed and forwarded to faculty an Internationalization Survey to gather data on faculty experience in international study, foreign language, and desire to participate in focus groups regarding international study on campus.
- Preliminary results from 199 faculty responses to the Internationalization Survey indicate that between 20 to 36% of Harper faculty are experienced in content related to the regions Eastern Europe, Latin America, Asia, the Middle East, and Africa. Of responding faculty, 46% have professional contacts outside the U.S., 40% have a working knowledge of a foreign language, and 15% were born outside of the U.S.

The draft Proposed Distinction in International Perspectives dated April 10, 2013, is attached to this PAR.

Relationship To Strategic Long Range Plan:

The proposed Distinction relates to all four directions of Harper College’s Strategic Plan: Inspiration, Partnership, Accountability, and Completion. In addition, the Distinction in International Perspectives would be an integral part of a future centralized home for international and intercultural programs.

- The Distinction will create a structure for developing educational and business partners within and outside the Harper community that may offer financial support and incentives, career and internship opportunities, and other postsecondary educational advantages to Harper students.
- Course study and Capstone Projects related to the Distinction in International Perspectives will help enable students to succeed in a global economy.
- The Distinction will create a culture of innovation as it creates and supports a focus of international study and competency on Harper’s campus.
- The Distinction is designed to include all Harper students, both full and part-time, engaging them not only in specific courses but in personalized study and work with fellow students and faculty advisors across disciplines.

Identify Resources That Will Be Required:

Financial	No additional financial resources are required, as current resources through International Studies and Programs are sufficient to launch the Distinction. However, depending upon the growth of the Distinction, additional resources may be needed in the future.
Personnel	It is proposed that the Coordinator of International Studies & Programs will also serve as The Distinction in International Perspectives Coordinator and will report to the Associate Provost. The Distinction will be housed in International Studies & Programs; the “Introduction to International Perspectives” course will be part of First Year Seminar offerings. The Distinction Coordinator will oversee the introductory course and all facets of the program, coordinate faculty advisors working with students, and assist in the review of curricula applicable to the Distinction. The Distinction Coordinator will supervise throughout the process all students who wish to seek the Distinction.
Space	No new space needed at this time.
Technology	No new technology needed at this time.
Equipment	No new equipment needed at this time.

Describe Impact On Other College Entities:

Broadly conceptualized, of course, such an interdisciplinary program will have a far-reaching impact. Specifically, it is expected that Marketing will promote the Distinction and that Student Development will advise and help with the placement of students in the "Introduction to International Perspectives" course as well as subsequent courses that apply to the Distinction.

Action On Proposal/Recommendation

THE FOLLOWING ACTION TAKEN WITH REGARD TO THIS PROPOSAL WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE, THE PRESIDENT (IF APPROPRIATE), AND THOSE INVOLVED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION.

Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Recommended to the President. Forwarded to the President on the RAP Form. <input type="checkbox"/> Returned with suggestions for review and revision attached <input type="checkbox"/> Approved for implementation with the proposed timeline for implementation attached <input type="checkbox"/> Rejected for the reasons attached
From	<input type="checkbox"/> College Assembly Committee <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deans Council <input type="checkbox"/> Faculty Senate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provost
Date	Signature <i>Judith Marwick for Deans' Council</i> <i>11/13/2013</i> <i>Judith Marwick, Provost</i> <i>10/30/2013</i> <i>10/31/2013</i>