

Committee Report 2008-2009
Interdisciplinary Doctorate Advisory Committee (IDOC)

The IDOC oversees the Interdisciplinary Doctorate Program of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. Its duties include developing guidelines for the program, reviewing candidates for admission to the program, and evaluating the progress of students in the program.

During the 2008-2009 academic year, the committee met six times. Two new individuals applied, and after a thorough examination of their qualifications by the IDOC were admitted as students to the program. These admissions led to a total of six students in the program last year. Two students in the Interdisciplinary Doctorate Program completed their theses and received their Ph.D. degrees in May 2009.

During the spring 2009 semester the IDOC reviewed the progress toward their degree of students in the program. Letters informing the students of their progress were sent to both the students and their academic advisors in June 2009.

Each year, the chair of the IDOC receives 25 to 30 inquiries about the Interdisciplinary Doctorate program, and interviews either by phone or in person, 10 to 15 individuals interested in applying to the program. Due to the facts that 1) student's proposals must be truly interdisciplinary, 2) students must have strong faculty support for their proposals and 3) students must have a very strong academic background, only about 3-4 individuals per year ultimately apply to the program.

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Chair, Interdisciplinary Doctorate Advisory Committee