The IDOC oversees the Interdisciplinary Doctoral 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 monitoring and evaluating the progress of individual students. During 2012-2013 the IDOC reviewed the program and reviewed and revised the program guidelines.

Each year the chair of the IDOC receives 40-45 inquires about the Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program. The chair then does a phone or in person interview with about 10-15 individuals interested in applying to the program. Due to the nature of the program in which the applicant must have a strong academic background, the applicant's proposal must be truly interdisciplinary and the applicant must have strong faculty support only a few students are accepted into the program. IDOC then evaluates the preliminary qualifications, the proposed area of study, the likely primary advisor and potential committee members for the interested student and makes a decision before encouraging about half of these people to go through the extensive application process.

There were 5 applicants for matriculation in the fall of 2013. Two of these applicants were accepted and entered this fall as part of the Interdisciplinary Water Diplomacy Program, supported by IGERT traineeships. The three remaining applicants were rejected. In addition to the first year students one student who matriculated in the spring of 2010 is making good progress in the program. Another student, Stephanie L. Gottwald, successfully defended her thesis and received her PhD in May of 2014.

The Dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences is an ex officio member of the IDOC working closely with the committee. Without a permanent Dean of the Graduate School for Arts and Sciences the committee reluctantly suspended application for this academic year. We look forward to re-opening applications this fall.

Susan Ernst, Chair

Bob Cook (ex-offico)

Gary Bedell

Sergio Fantini

David Guss

Sheldon Krimsky

Steven Marrone