

Interdisciplinary Studies

2006-2007
Annual Report

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MISSION

The mission of the Interdisciplinary Studies Program is to offer selected baccalaureate programs that provide students with the flexibility to design coherent cross disciplinary programs that will enhance student learning and career opportunities. The purpose of the program is to focus on the needs and unique aspirations of the students at Coppin State University.

OVERVIEW

The Interdisciplinary Studies Program is intended for those students whose intellectual interests converge in a particular area of study that is not directly addressed by an existing program or combination of a major and a minor.

The Interdisciplinary Studies Program is vibrant and innovative in assisting students to reach their academic and career goals. Coppin State University is committed to the creativity of its students and dedicated to responsive curricula that serve the general education and non-major requirements. Students in the Interdisciplinary Studies Program have the opportunity to design a custom-tailored program.

The corporate world and universities favor individuals who are flexible and able to keep pace with constantly changing technologies and market trends. Coppin State University's Interdisciplinary Studies Program empowers its students to prepare for employment and graduate study by allowing them to design a major that focuses on areas of study that are most relevant to their professional objectives and scholastic interests.

HISTORY

The name change from Liberal Arts to Interdisciplinary Studies and the new policy revisions were approved by the Curriculum & Standards Committee on December 9, 2004.

The Interdisciplinary Studies Program Advisory Board was established in August 2005 to consider the management and oversight of the Interdisciplinary Studies Program in response to the Program Review of 2005. The Board members initially consisted of the following members:

- Mr. Michael Bowden, Director of Research and Evaluation, Office of Academic Affairs
- Dr. Jacqueline Brice-Finch, Dean, School of Arts and Sciences
- Mr. Ron Collins, Dean, Honors College
- Ms. Juanita Gilliam, Director, Academic Resource Center
- Dr. Mary Owens Southall, Dean, School of Graduate Studies

Ms. Karen LeDrew, consultant, worked with the Board for a period of time to provide recommendations for efficient data management regarding the students in the program and to develop appropriate forms for the program. Dr. Margaret Turner, Registrar, joined the Board to assure that the policies and procedures developed for the program were in compliance with the University and Maryland Higher education Commission policies. Mrs. Tondelaya K. Blackstone was appointed Director of the Interdisciplinary Studies Program in March 2005 and began attending the Board meetings thereafter.

The Interdisciplinary Studies Capstone Seminar course, a one-semester three (3) credit course required of all students pursuing the Interdisciplinary Studies Program was approved by the Curriculum and Standards Committee on April 11, 2006 and was offered for the first time in spring 2007. In this class, students have the opportunity to pull together the diverse strands of their interdisciplinary studies, reflect on the connections among these strands, and produce an in depth senior project focusing on their concentration within the major. At the end of the semester, they present and discuss aspects of their projects in class. They prepare a final portfolio for this class at the end of the semester.

Thirty-four (34) students are currently enrolled in the capstone seminar course (IDST 499) for spring 2007. Two sections will be taught during 2007 summer session I, and three sections offered fall 2007. The capstone seminar class will be offered every semester and summer session thereafter.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Established the Office of the Interdisciplinary Studies Program.
2. Hired office staff and adjunct faculty.
3. Developed a website and brochure to promote the major.
4. Revised mission statement.
5. Revised the Declaration of Major and Concentrations Approval Form.
6. Developed a Status Sheet for the student major.
7. Established the admission criteria for the major.
8. Included the program of study in the catalog and listed the major on the Office of Admissions application form.
9. Developed a capstone seminar course (IDST 499).
10. Established membership with the Association for Integrative Studies (AIS).
11. Established an accurate record keeping and tracking system.
12. Established an annual open house as well as student workshops and information sessions.
13. Provided training for Interdisciplinary Studies staff.

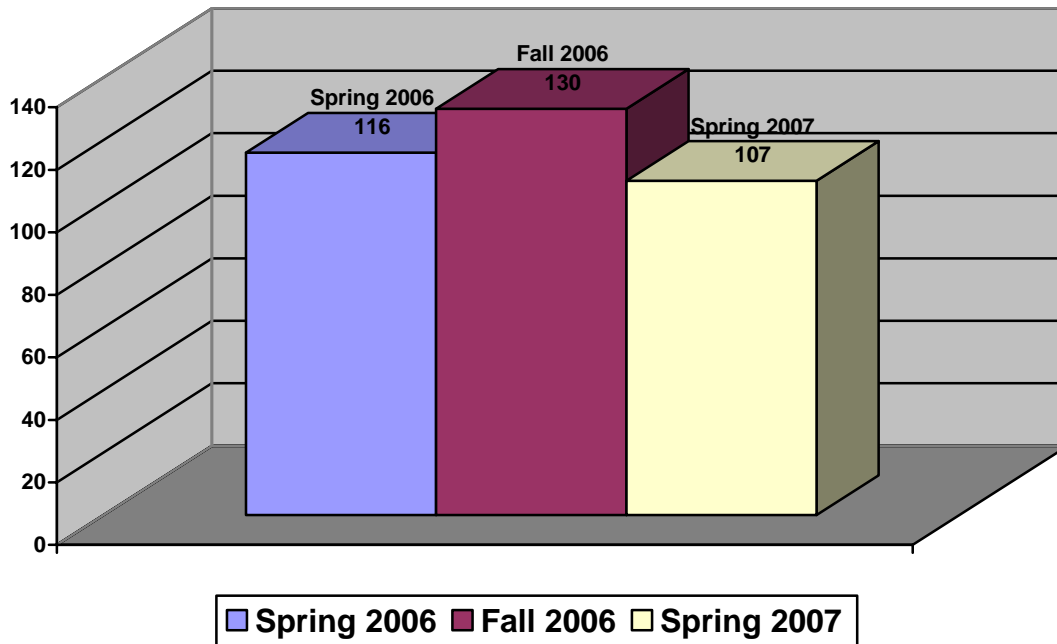
MARKETING INITIATIVES (recruiting opportunities)

1. Addressed Freshmen Seminar classes.
2. Participated in Undeclared Major Day and sent materials to students on mailing list.
3. Sent mailings to all admitted and prospective students.
4. Promoted the program on and off campus.
5. Participated in summer programs on campus.
6. Distributed updated information to all academic faculty and staff, as well as appropriate non-academic units on campus.

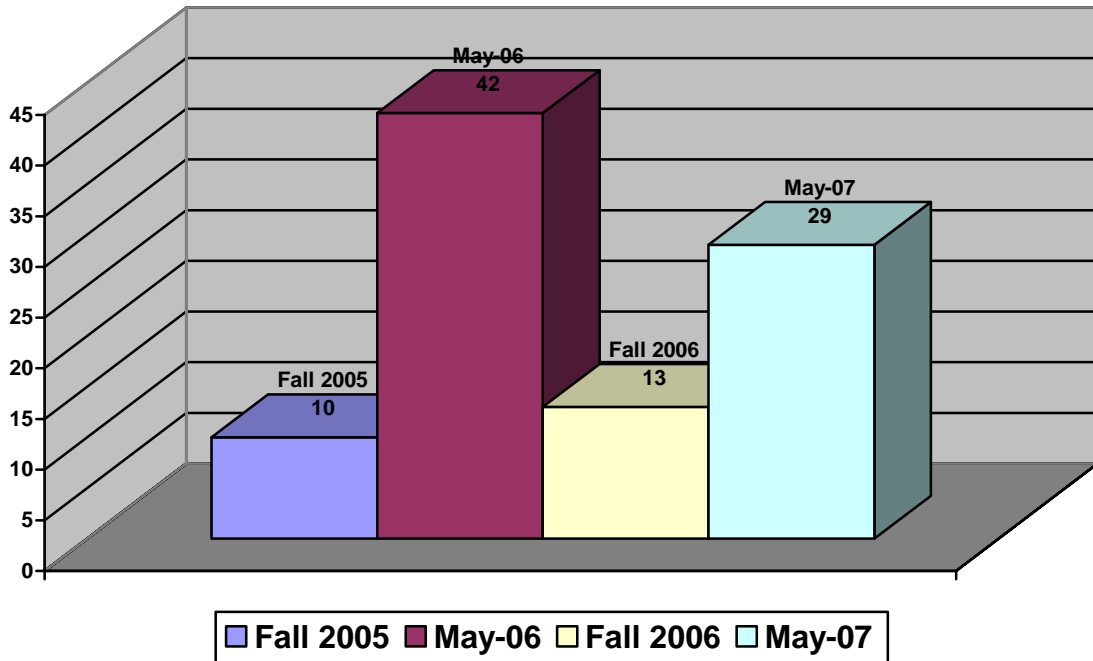
ENROLLMENT

There are currently 107 students enrolled in the program with 50 students participating in the commencement ceremony on May 20, 2007 and out of those students 29 are expected to graduate.

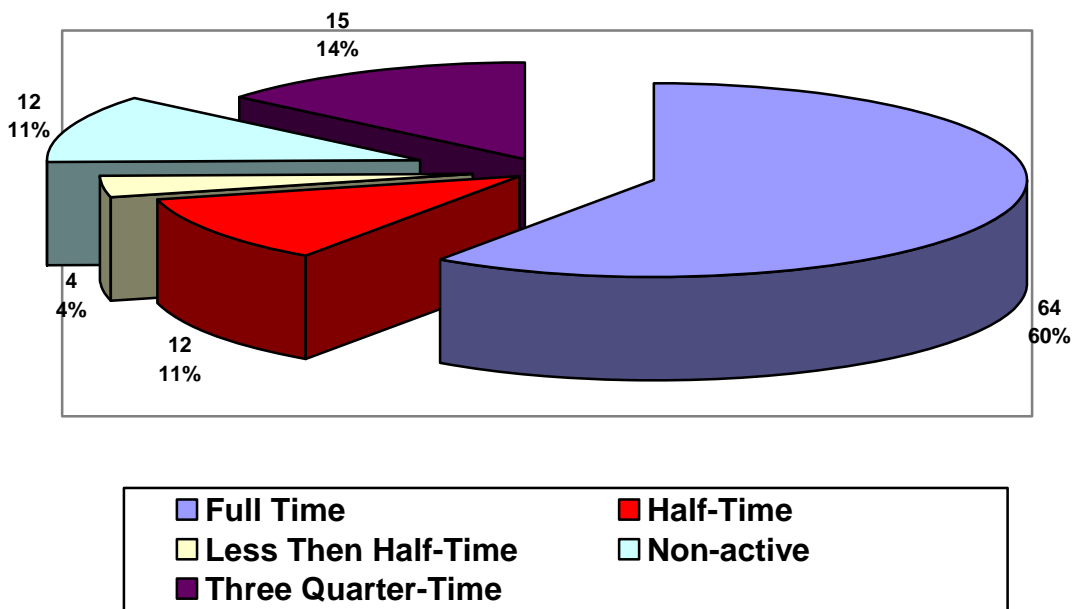
Student Enrollment



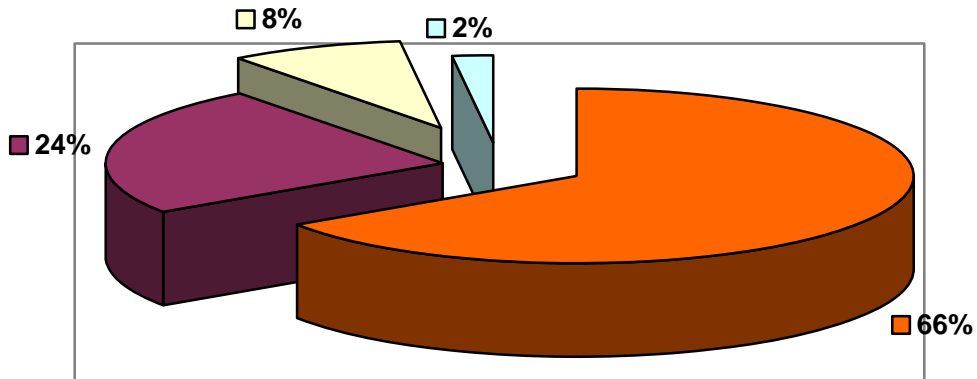
Student Graduates



Student Status (spring 2007)

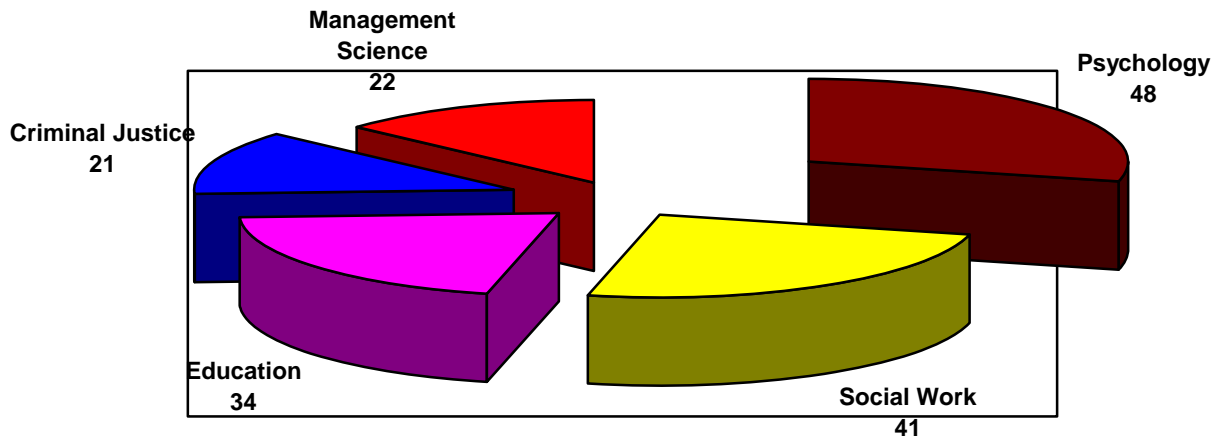


Student Level (spring 2007)



■ Seniors
 ■ Juniors
 ■ Sophmores
 ■ Freshmen

Top 5 Concentrations (spring 2007)



■ Psychology
 ■ Social Work
 ■ Education
 ■ Criminal Justice
 ■ Management Science

CONCENTRATION BREAKDOWN (spring 2007)*

Concentration	Students Selection
African American History	1
Art	1
Biology	3
Criminal Justice	21
Computer Science	1
Dance	2
Education	34
English	4
General Science	2
History	2
Management Science	22
Mathematics	1
Natural Science	2
Nursing	2
Psychology	48
Social Science	12
Social Work	41
Sports Management	4
Recreation	1
Rehabilitation Service	1

*** Some students were approved for intradepartmental concentrations.**

GOALS FOR THE 2007-2008 ACADEMIC YEAR

1. Attend annual AIS (Association of Integrated Studies) conference. (September 27th – 30th, 2007/ Tempe, Arizona)
2. Maintain effective communication among the academic units of the University to strengthen the program and assure academic progress toward graduation.
3. Increase graduation by 5% of juniors and seniors who selected the Interdisciplinary Studies Major after earning 60 credits.
4. Increase the selection of Interdisciplinary Studies major by 5% by freshmen and transfer students.
5. Improve Academic advising for Interdisciplinary Studies Major by providing accurate advising information.