

# CALVIN COLLEGE

## POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Assessment Report, 2003-2004

Our most recent assessment plan findings indicate that our graduates are, in general, meeting the goals we have set for our major program. (Assessment plan is attached as Appendix A.) Each and all of the 2004 Political Science graduates met our objective for research methodology (30/30); 87% for oral communication (26/30); 97% for written communication (29/30); and 83% for service (25/30). Only 74% met our objective for disciplinary content in specific content areas (17/23). Our goal is 90% in each of these five areas. (Our objective for integration of political science and the Christian faith is not yet fully applicable though it will be for the upcoming class of 2005.)

A continuing concern is the composition and administration of our test for disciplinary content. We continue to reevaluate the wording of the questions asked and the procedures for insuring that our graduating seniors not only take the test but take it seriously. This past spring only 77% took the test (23/30). Two of these were unable to take the test, and four were simply “no-shows.” We will continue to deliberate on the design, tailoring and implementation of this test so that we can be assured both of its accurate reflection of our program content and of its availability to all of our students.