

APPENDIX 21

Appendix 21
Improvement in the General Education Component,
College of General Studies:
Summary, since 1995

Year	Process/activity
August, 1995	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Center for the Development of Language Competencies created, to provide students taking Spanish and English courses academic support in the production and comprehension of speech.
February, 1995	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steering Committee for Curricular Revision named, to formulate general guidelines for college's curriculum proposal.
December, 1995	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steering Committee for Curricular Revision submits report; discussion at the college level.
April, 1996	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curricular Integration Committee formed, to encourage curricular revision and innovation projects being carried out in the various departments.
May, 1996	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Departmental curriculum committees submit report on curriculum revisions since December, 1994.
July, 1996	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Academic Program Committee produces Liaison Document: Integration of College of General Studies Curriculum Guidelines with Academic Senate Special Committee for Reconceptualization of the UPR/RP Bachelors Degree; in producing this report, the APC uses work done by the Curricular Integration Committee and the Academic Senate Special Committee's Progress Report (March, 1996).
1997	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Academic Program Committee breaks into groups to formulate proposals in the following areas: Conceptualization of a New University Bachelors Degree: General Education: Philosophy and Model Curriculum; Student Services; Educational Technology and General Education; and Research Center, Curricular Innovation, and Assessment for General Education.
February, 1997	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> College submits progress report on College's reconceptualization to the Academic Senate Reconceptualization Steering Committee
May, 1997	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workshop/encounter: On the Road to Reconceptualization, aimed at discussing the Campus's reconceptualization process.
November, 1997	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spanish Department approves new syllabus for workshop course complementing Spanish course.
1997	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of project "Toward an Integrated Competency Program at the University of Puerto Rico," whose purpose is to establish close communication and coordination between CGS and Humanities' English Departments.
December, 1997	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English Department completes revisions of course descriptions for basic courses 3003-04 (regular and experimental), 3103-04 (intermediate), 3011-12 (honors), and 3151-52.
August, 1997	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical Sciences Dept. codes variants, giving follow-up as mandated in department meeting December 19, 1995, and considered since 1988.
August, 1997	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical Sciences Dept. designs variant of CIFI 3001 for students from Nutrition and Dietetics, College of Education.
1997-98	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical Sciences Dept. evaluates variant of Science, Technology, and Society.
1997-98	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guide for Curricular Assessment of Courses in Physical Sciences Department is produced.
1997-98	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biological Sciences Dept. revises CIBI 3001-02.
1997-98	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biological Sciences Dept. revises course descriptions for its courses.
1997-98	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biological Sciences Dept. produces a new guide for laboratories.
1998-99	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New intermediate-level English course created: Computer-Assisted Academic Composition, 3123-24.
1998-99	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical Sciences Dept. incorporates electronic calculators into course workshops and labs
1998-99	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spanish Dept. revises its course syllabuses

1998–99	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spanish Dept. produces syllabuses for intermediate and honors-level courses.
1999–00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document outlining reconceptualization of general-education component created and presented; this document expands, changes, and renews the college's mission, goals, and objectives. • Pilot plan whose intention is to create a diversity of courses, preferably interdisciplinary, is created; course proposals presented for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Space and Culture: The Medieval Cathedral b. Interdisciplinary perspective on the body as an object of study. c. CIBI 3006–07: interdisciplinary course emphasizing environmental conservation. d. The search for paths of knowledge
2000–01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic Senate passes New Bachelors Degree Project, and an Academic Renewal Initiative is submitted. • College establishes the Center for Curricular Research and Assessment, with the following objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Establish an operations plan for the Center b. Establish a professional-development plan for faculty members, aimed at research, design, and implementation of curricular-assessment plans c. Do institutional research on curricular offerings of CGS d. Design and implement departmental assessment plans, the Bachelors Degree Program, and courses for the CGS Reconceptualization Plan e. Publicize institutional research, departmental assessments, and Bachelors Degree Program
2001–02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experimental course approved: Invitation to Travel. • Lab added to CIFI 3010 (for students of Family Ecology). • JavaScript language added to CIFI 3006 (Literature on Computers). • New labs designed for CIFI 3013–14 (Science, Technology, and Society). • Assessment begun on CIBI 3003–04, 3006–07. • Implementation begun on Academic Renewal Initiative: the virtual laboratory in Physical Sciences as a student-centered medium of education and promoter of distance education.
2002–03	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interdisciplinary and Intercultural Institute created.
2003–04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • College Interdisciplinary Seminar created. • Dialog begun with School of Communication on general-education component. • Definition of general education passes unanimously in College-level meeting. • Social Sciences Dept. prepares syllabus for CISO, to take into consideration the needs of Communications students; four sections of this course to be offered to incoming Communications students in first semester of academic year 2004–05.