

**Utah State University  
MLA Program  
LAAB Meeting  
August 1-2, 2011**

**Summary of Recommendations and Suggestions**

**Recommendations Affecting Accreditation:**

1. Develop a program-specific mission statement for the MLA program that distinguishes the MLA program from the BLA program in the context of the LAEP departmental mission statement (Standard 1).
2. Align MLA program educational goals and specific objectives to measure progress in support of the MLA mission (Standard 1).

**Suggestions for Improvements:**

1. The hiring of senior level faculty should be a priority to help elevate the growing administrative and mentoring responsibilities of mid-level and tenured faculty as well as create a more balanced department (Standard 2).
2. Consider revising the curriculum to reduce the number of required credits/courses in year 1 and 2 of the MLA curriculum to allow greater opportunities to pursue electives and to pursue courses in support of an individual concentration. (Standard 3).
3. Consider new faculty hires at tenured associate, or full professor level, in order to address lack of senior faculty that is overloading current senior faculty on tenure and promotion committees and junior faculty mentoring, and limiting mentoring opportunities for junior faculty. (Standard 5).
4. Clarify standards and expectations for faculty research and creative activities and provide mentoring appropriate to each faculty's personal portfolio of research or creative work (Standard 5).
5. Continue to explore ways to serve and include Utah's Native Americans in the department's programs (Standard 6).
6. Consider broadening the Advisory Board's membership to include more non-alumni practitioners and allied professionals. (Standard 6).