

February 2014

Self Evaluation Process – Response to Prof. Eugene Bardach’s review over the Implementation of the Recommendations made by the External Evaluation Team

We received Prof. Bardach’s thoughtful comments as to the implementation of the recommendations in our division. We highly appreciate his constructive remarks and are further delighted to read the positive assessment of our progress and development.

Following Prof. Bardach's statement that "The Evaluation Committee thought very highly of the Haifa program overall and its approach to management and organizational practice in particular," we believe that we should continue the general course of our past activities. Nevertheless, we are also aware of the need to further develop the economic aspect of policy analysis and we are seriously considering recruiting a new faculty member to strengthen this aspect of our research and curriculum. The other point mentioned by Prof. Bardach and by the committee was the need to offer students “some of the quantitative techniques of policy analysis: the calculation of benefits and costs, cost-effectiveness analysis, statistical decision analysis, and probabilistic reasoning (as distinct from statistical methods).…” As noted in our June 2013 implementation self-report, we had already begun moving in this direction in 2010. We will continue to put emphasis on this and enrich our program accordingly.

Finally, we also took note of the general comments made to all institutions, as suggested by Prof. Bardach. We would like to state that, as far as we see it, our primary mission is to develop the research capacities of our faculty members and their international scientific contribution to the discipline. On the basis of this priority, we intensively compete for the best and finest scholars in the fields of policy making, policy analysis and public management and administration, as well as other sub-fields of the discipline in our recruitment campaigns. We see ourselves as a heterogeneous community of scholars with the mission of putting research first, but at the same time also offering our graduate students cutting-edge knowledge that will prepare them well for both academic careers and making practical contributions to the Israeli public sector, local governance, and auditing arena. We believe also that this vision will benefit Israeli public administration as well as enrich the Israeli community in general.



Division of Public Administration and Policy
School of Political Science, University of Haifa
Haifa 31905, Israel



In sum, we thank Prof. Bardach and the committee for their constructive feedback that will undoubtedly guide us in our current and future activities.

We believe that the entire process of evaluation is most helpful and essential to the future development of the high-standard program in Public Administration & Policy at the University of Haifa.

Dana Vashdi

Dana R. Vashdi,
Head, Division of Public Administration and Policy
School of Political Science, University of Haifa
Haifa 31905, Israel
Tel: 972-4-8240584
Fax: 972-4-8257785
E-mail: dvashti@poli.haifa.ac.il