MINUTES
GRADUATE READING FACULTY
JANUARY 24, 2002

TOPIC: Student evaluations of ITV courses
ATTENDING: Chhanda Islam, Sharon Gill

Faculty discussed feedback from students in the graduate reading courses REA 612, 628, 638 offered through ITV. Instructors of these courses received significantly lower evaluations from off-campus ITV students than from on-campus students within the same class; and also significantly lower evaluations from off-campus ITV students than from students in courses offered on campus or online. The faculty also discussed the strong tendency for students in the on-campus sections of ITV classes to make much higher grades than students in the off-campus sections of ITV classes. Faculty observations suggested that students in the off-campus sections pay less attention to the instructor, often holding conversations during lectures. Students in these sections have complained about the talking going on making it hard to understand the instructor. Faculty also noted that off-campus students do not participate as well in class discussions or in group activities. Faculty have also observed that students from off-campus sites are more likely to interrupt the professor to ask off-task questions than on-campus students. For whatever reason, students clearly find the ITV courses a less valuable experience than courses offered in other formats. The reading faculty want to continue to monitor this problem and may consider offering the reading courses in other formats, such as online.