Prof. Dressler, who will assume the duties of Director of Graduate Studies in January, has also begun to develop a plan to target specific departments that might be potential sources of students and to promote our graduate programs to them directly.

3. If given the go ahead to explore the possibilities of a Ph.D. program, the department should begin the application process for new programs.

   We have successfully applied for the Ph.D. program and are in the first official year of its implementation.

4. The department should explore the ways and means for maximum curricular cooperation with the UAB anthropology department.

   We continue to have an inter-institutional or cooperative relationship with UAB’s anthropology department in which they participate in UA’s M.A. program. Our students can take any course at UAB and it will count towards our curriculum and their students can do so here, as well. In recent years we have explored the possibility of expanding this relationship. As it currently stands, in addition to the interchangeability of UAB’s and UA’s graduate course offerings (from the perspective of the students), it is also possible for their professors to teach at UA and for ours to teach at UAB.

   Due to the growth in the size of our faculty, we are now perfectly capable of offering a full range of courses to our graduate students in both the M.A. and the Ph.D. programs. However, should one of our students have a particular interest that can be pursued better at UAB, we encourage them to take advantage of their curricular offerings. As always the logistics and time involved in moving people back and forth between Tuscaloosa and Birmingham generally means that students and professors only avail themselves of these opportunities when the benefits of doing so are compelling.

5. The students thought enrichment within and beyond courses was lacking. They had expected more field trips and field work within the courses. They had also expected more practical experience. In their view practical experience should be a major part of each of the courses. But, felt this expectation was not fulfilled. The Department should develop further undergraduate opportunities in these areas.

   The reader is referred to the Anthropology Department’s response to this particular recommendation as part of the last review process (1996). In that response the department demonstrated that the characterization that our students believed that “enrichment within and beyond courses was lacking,” was not supported by any of the interviews conducted by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment Survey or any other data about student opinion. Apparently, this recommendation was based on a single student’s negative comment.

   Student opinion about the period currently under review supports the view that our faculty is very much appreciated by the students for the quality of their involvement with them both inside and outside of the classroom. Please refer to Attachment 6 (“Student Satisfaction Survey Report, Spring 2003. Compiled by Dr. Jon Charles Acker, UA Office of Institutional Research and Assessment.”) and Attachment 7 (“Survey of Past and Present Graduate Students, 2001”). In fact, there are abundant opportunities for field trips, for field schools, and for volunteer work in archaeology. Prof. Oths maintains a list of anthropological field schools of all sorts and emails notice of new ones to our majors/minors email distribution list.

   Our own department has been conducting archaeological field schools since 1956, yearly since 1970 (ANT 269 “Field Archaeology”). Indeed, most years we offer two archaeological field schools for students: one in the summer and one in the fall. Additionally, the Anthropology Club sponsors at least one field trip per year and typically several are organized in any given year. From 1988-2001, Boyce Driskell, an adjunct member of our
10. **Describe any anticipated changes in the number of undergraduate students in specific majors in your department for the next 3 years and discuss the reasons for anticipated changes.**

We would like to increase the number of Anthropology majors and we believe that increasing the number of students taking our introductory level courses may be the best approach to attaining this goal. Additionally, we plan to work more closely with A&S advisors in an effort to communicate better with uncommitted students about the intellectual advantages of the anthropology major and its utility in acquiring interesting and rewarding employment.

Prof. Murphy has approached Dr. Ann Webb, Assistant Dean and Director of Student Services of A&S, about setting up a meeting with A&S advisors in order to brief them in detail about the nature of our three large introductory courses. Unlike most of the other social science disciplines, anthropology is not taught at the high school level in the state of Alabama and therefore we attract fewer freshmen students than might otherwise be the case. By better informing our college’s advisors about what we offer and by providing them with information about careers in anthropology, we hope to attract more freshmen in their first and second terms at UA.

11. **Chancellor Portera and President Witt are looking for opportunities for The University of Alabama System to work together more closely. What is the feasibility of offering one or more of your undergraduate degree programs with UAB and/or UAH?**

[Note. Working with other institutions on an existing degree program might take a number of forms, e.g., beginning to offer a long-standing UA program as a "cooperative" program with UA still the primary institution for program resources and administration. Alternatively, it could take the form of a "shared" program that is mutually sponsored by two or more institutions but would not be terminated if one of the institutions becomes unable to meet its obligations to the shared program.]

UAB has its own B.A. program in Anthropology and we see no realistic opportunity to establish a relationship with UAH, because there are no anthropologists on its faculty. Since the last review we have offered IITS courses to UAB students, but suspended the practice because of persistent technical problems and because of the unilateral reduction of incentives.

**Anthropology’s Commitment to Undergraduate Education**

The anthropology department is committed to excellence in undergraduate education. We invite the reader to read the ratings and comments of our undergraduate majors reported in the OIRA Student Satisfaction Survey Report (Attachment # 6).

An additional measure of this commitment is that a number of our faculty members have won awards because of their contributions to the teaching of undergraduates. Prof. Ian Brown earned the Outstanding Commitment to Students Award of the College of Arts and Sciences; Prof. Jim Bindon has been named an inaugural member of the A&S Leadership Board Fellow and Prof. Dick Krause and Michael Murphy have both served as Distinguished Teaching Fellows of the College of Arts and Sciences. Additionally, anthropology professors have figured prominently in the International Honors Program (Prof. Murphy offered the inaugural seminar for that program) and the Blount Undergraduate Initiative of A&S. Prof. Charles Nuckolls served as its first director and Prof. Brown is a member of its Advisory Board. Profs. Brown, Jacobi and Murphy have all taught classes as Senior Blount Fellows.

*Note. Each item with a Ψ is provided in a spreadsheet by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment.*
The quality of research by graduate faculty is assessed in precisely the manner that is outlined in our tenure and promotion criteria. In addition to considerations of merit increases, promotion and tenure, our graduate faculty members are motivated by the desire to do good work as an end in itself. Obviously, we also want to be held in high regard by our colleagues. Exceptionally productive members of our faculty are nominated for appropriate honors and we are delighted that in recent years Prof. Lisa LeCount won the American Anthropological Association’s prestigious Gordon R. Willey Award for achievement in archaeology, Prof. Bill Dressler won the Burnum Award (arguably the most prestigious award UA confers on a faculty member), and Prof. Jim Bindon was named an inaugural A&S Leadership Board Fellow. Our department enjoys the rare distinction of having two winners of the AAA’s Stirling Award for research in psychological anthropology, Profs. Bill Dressler and Charles Nuckolls. Prof. Dressler has also been the John P. Kirscht Distinguished Lecturer at the University Of Michigan School of Public Health (2000) and the Graduate Student Invitational Distinguished Lecturer at the University of Kentucky School of Medicine (2001). Profs. Brown and Knight have both served as president of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference and Prof. Dressler is past president of the Society for Medical Anthropology.

In the spring, every faculty member submits a detailed Faculty Activity Report (FAR) to the chair of the department. Along with evaluations of teaching and service, each faculty member’s research work and productivity is scrutinized. During the annual meeting with the chair to discuss the FAR and the chair’s evaluation, research productivity is an important topic of conversation and both successes and deficiencies are considered at that time. In due course, the chair discusses faculty members’ scholarly productivity with the dean of the college.

21. Chancellor Portera and President Witt are looking for opportunities for the three campuses of The University of Alabama System to work together more closely.

   a.) **What is the feasibility of offering one or more of your graduate degree programs with UAB and/or UAH?**

   [Note. Working with other institutions on an existing degree program might take a number of forms, e.g., beginning to offer a long-standing UA program as a “cooperative” program with UA still the primary institution for program resources and administration. Alternatively, it could take the form of a “shared” program that is mutually sponsored by two or more institutions but would not be terminated if one of the institutions becomes unable to meets its obligations to the shared program. ]

   Our M.A. is an “inter-institutional” or cooperative program with UAB. They participate in our program and the M.A. students accepted and trained by them receive the Masters degree from UA. Discussions are underway to consider the possibility of upgrading that cooperative relationship to a “shared” M.A.

   b.) **What are the opportunities for collaboration in research with UAB and/or UAH?**

   The members of our faculty are quite open to the possibility of scholarly collaboration with researchers from other universities, including UAB and UAH, and this is evident in the number of publications in our collective curriculum vitae that are co-authored with scholars from other institutions. There are no obstacles to such collaboration and all faculty members are encouraged to pursue their research interests wherever and with whomever they think appropriate.

   *Note. Each item with a ¥ is provided in a spreadsheet by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment.