College of Letters & Science Recommendation to Create A Department
of French, Italian, and Comparative Literature

Recommendation
That the Department of French and Italian and the Comparative Literature section of
the budget of the Department of English and Comparative Literature merge into a single
department, the Department of French, Italian and Comparative Literature. Operational
implementation of the merger will begin upon final approval by the Chancellor (expected by
July 1, 1996), and will be completely in effect by July 1, 1997.

Background/rationale
In the context of reduced resources and faculty interest in several departments in
developing the program in Comparative Literature in a foreign language setting, it is desirable
to locate the program in Comparative Literature with one or more of the foreign languages.
Considerations of size, as well as historical origin of the discipline of Comparative Literature,
lead to a proposed union with the faculty in the Department of French and Italian. It is
anticipated that additional faculty from other departments with background in Comparative
Literature will seek to join the new Department of French, Italian and Comparative Literature.

Scope
The change proposed in this document does not affect the existing curriculum. It
provides a different administrative housing arrangement for the academic programs and
courses that each department or program has heretofore housed separately. The new
Department of French, Italian, and Comparative Literature will be responsible for the
administration of the following academic programs, which were previously housed in two
separate departments:

Majors: Comparative Literature, French, Italian
Minors: Comparative Literature, French, Italian

It is expected that each academic program will maintain its own public identity as a
program in the new department, although many operational aspects of all the programs will be
centrally managed. Details of division of labor will be worked out internally by the
department. Curricular changes may be proposed in the future.

The present proposal does not change the administration of the Master of Arts in
Foreign Language and Literature. The academic programs participating in MAFLL will
continue to participate as they have in the past. At some future date a separate proposal for
the administration of the MAFLL program may be forthcoming, however.

The respective language programs will continue to participate in College and university
wide academic programs with appropriate faculty representation of the language
area/discipline on the governing committees. Similarly, liaison with the School of Education
language teaching programs is expected to continue to involve representation by language area
as appropriate.
Membership/governance

All the faculty and academic staff members of the current Department of French and Italian and all the faculty budgeted (partially or fully) in 1995-96 in the Comparative Literature section of the Department of English and Comparative Literature will be faculty and academic staff members of the new Department of French, Italian and Comparative Literature. Faculty will be budgeted in the same proportion in the new Department of French, Italian and Comparative Literature as they were budgeted in E/CL in 1995-96; the other portion of their appointment will remain unchanged.

The executive committee of the Department of French, Italian and Comparative Literature (which, in accordance with UWM Policies and Procedures, will consist of the tenured members of the new department) will consider requests by additional faculty from other departments to join the new department and make appropriate recommendations to the Dean.

Approved by Letters & Science Faculty and Dean Marshall Goodman