Unit Plan – PROPOSAL FOR NEW INITIATIVES

Unit: History
Division or Area to Which You Report: Social Science
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Date: March 17, 2008

Audience: Deans/Unit Administrators, IPBC, Foundation, Grants, Budget,
Purpose: A "New Initiative" is a new project or expansion of a current project that supports college goals. The project will require the support of additional and/or outside funding. The information you provide will facilitate and focus the research and development process for finding outside funding.
Instructions: Please fill in the following information.

Priority Objective or Strategic Plan Objective Addressed:

Objective: (include goal/objective number from Part II of your Unit Plan for reference)

Formalize and expand a Faculty Inquiry Group to engage in an on-going dialog about student learning & student “success.”

Project Description:
See “What You Hope to Accomplish” from "Goals" area. The dialog will be informed by our program review History Student Survey, and by our collective classroom experience. We hope to analyze "basic skills" in the context of teaching transfer-level, academic history courses: whether it is possible or desirable to teach "basic skills" in a transfer-level course; determine the definition of "basic skills" in the context of teaching/studying history; define "habits of mind" and determine the impact of students’ "habits of mind" on their ability to succeed in our history classes; explore the possibilities of developing /offering stand-alone, remedial "basic skills"/"habits of mind" courses to prepare students for taking our transfer-level academic history courses, etc.

Expected Outcome:
Develop strategies for improving student success in history.