Statement of Consulting Approach

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One of the primary responsibilities of the Department Resources Group (DRG) is to assist departments in the program review process. In that capacity, we serve as consultants who are not only trained with regard to the recommendations of the American Sociological Association but also familiar with Sociology programs across the nation. Therefore, DRG consultants can support you in your efforts to strengthen your department and develop your programs. One of our goals is to help departments identify areas of strength and assist them in identifying ways they can use those strengths for positive change. I have been a member of the DRG since 1981, and when I visit a department I not only advise them, I advocate for them.

To provide you with some context, in addition to MA and PhD programs, the department from which I officially retired (in 2007) has a large undergraduate program, with majors in Sociology and Criminal Justice, a well-developed assessment program, undergraduate clubs for both majors, and chapters of Alpha Kappa Delta and Alpha Phi Sigma. We also have an internship program that is open to all majors, and an applied research center. Most recently, my experience has been in the area of research ethics, and before that drugs and alcohol. In addition to applied work, one of my major areas of publishing and professional activity has been teaching and higher education.

Over the years, I have been privileged to serve as a DRG consultant on more than two dozen reviews (the specific institutions are listed on my vita). In addition, prior to serving as the chair of our department (1999-2005), I led our own self study, coordinated the visit of the external review team (from the DRG), and chaired the strategic planning committee that subsequently implemented the recommendations from the reviewers. Therefore, I am intimately familiar with the review process and its political context, from both sides of the fence.