

Department of World Languages and Literatures

Faculty Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 4, 2011

3:15p.m. to 4:15p.m.

NH 491F

Attendance

Jennifer Perlmutter (Leading), O Aliaj, P Basci, S Boero, C Breedlove, L Cosgriff, A Dolidon, M Elliott, S Freels, K Godfrey, M Hickey, J Holt, I Jaén-Portillo, O Kisselev, G Kogan, L Kominz, L Kondilis, D Nguyen, E Núñez, I Olsen, J Pease, F Sanchez, R Sanders, C Sloan, S Wadley, I Warnock, E Wagner, J Waruhiu, S Watanabe, A Yatsenko, K Yoon

Announcements

- Elliott will not offer FL 199 in the fall because she will be going to France. She hopes to offer it when she returns. [Update – Elliott will be in Portland in the fall and will offer the class as planned.]
- Perlmutter will be contacting each major and minor section to set up a meeting. This is something she plans to do each year. She will circulate questions for discussion regarding what has been done in your section, what you would like to see and future planning.
- Boero, as chair of the Elections committee, will be asking you for your top three choices for committee assignments and whether you would like to be considered for election to Advisory and/or P & T.

Searches

- We have received a verbal acceptance for the Spanish position. We hope to receive a signed contract back from the candidate soon.
- There has been a reasonable number of applicants for the Arabic position. If we do not get a good selection of candidates to interview, we will reopen the search.
- In-person, off-site interviews have taken place for the Dean search. Finalists will be on campus 5/9-11, 5/16-20 and 5/23-27. [Update – these dates have changed.] Each will hold a faculty group discussion and make a public presentation. You are strongly encouraged to respond to the electronic survey ASAP after attendance. The search committee will make a recommendation to the Provost who will make the final decision.

Budget

- The campus-wide budget meeting is set for 5/11/11 from 11AM-2PM and again from 1PM -2PM. All are encouraged to attend.
- At the direction of the budget office and CLAS, Perlmutter, Wetzel and Nguyen have been going through the base budget and faculty teaching loads. CLAS will maximize the efficiency of base faculty before allotting money for adjuncts and GTAs.
- CLAS should have a better idea of where we are at within a week.
- The Spanish advisor position was moved to the base budget which is good news.

Desire2Learn (D2L)

- We will be using D2L exclusively as of June. If you have anything on Blackboard, including pending incompletes, save it elsewhere or all data will be lost. This is not a soft deadline.
- All Master's theses will be electronic only starting 5/20/11.

Google Migration

PSU is moving its email and calendars to Google Apps for Education.

- If you use Meeting Maker, all data will be migrated 6/17-6/20/11 automatically. By June 20th, Google Calendar will have fully replaced Meeting Maker. You should not need additional software to access this App from a smartphone.
- July 5th is the early opt-in date for Goggle Mail and when training begins. Students will be migrated in the summer and Faculty/Staff during late fall term, 12/9 – 12/13.

Additional Announcements

- Sanders – Two outstanding applications have been received so far for Phi Sigma Iota, a national honor society promoting the study of foreign languages. The application deadline is April 29.
- Dolidon - Please submit your recipes for the 2012 WLL Calendar. Québec movie night at 5th Avenue Cinemas 5/13, 14 & 15/11 7PM & 2PM. First two, mature audiences only third one ok for kids.
- Kominz – Students will be performing traditional Japanese comedy in English in the Lincoln Hall Studio Theater 7PM-8:30PM on 6/9, right after the WLL Graduation and Award Reception.

- Boero – Visiting Professor of Italian at the University of Bologna Andrea Gazzoni will be teaching a summer class: “Migrant Narratives in Contemporary Italy.”

Discussion - External Review report

Sanders: tenured faculty should meet separately

Kominz: report was vast and somewhat self-contradictory; I don't agree that faculty is passive; important decisions have been made in faculty meetings before; difficult for reviewers to get a firm grasp on our large and complex department

Sanders: these reviewers are active in ADFL and have seen departments like ours before; budget decisions are not always made in a transparent manner in the department; we should be growing with an idea of where we want to go

Kominz: we need to do long-range planning at the departmental level; a retreat?

Watanabe: I agree that we need a vision for future; it would be useful for WLL to reflect on its role in the context of the university as well as view itself within what else is going on in the nation; where are other departments housed, such as regionally defined units (e.g., East Asian Languages)? where are they going?

Cosgriff: this retreat should be open to fixed-term faculty as well

Sanders: we need to review best practices for GTAs; although Spanish GTAs teach 2 classes, they now have as much face time again as they had before before we replaced paper workbooks with online workbooks

Hickey: this is something with which the chair can task Graduate Council

Elliott: the council should approach former TAs (who might be more open to speaking candidly) as well as current ones about their experiences teaching and the balance of student vs. teacher

Godfrey: we should take into account the quality of TAs as well when we assign them more than once class

Sanders / Sloan: Spanish has had no theses since TAs have doubled their teaching load

Pease: we are short-changing education by doing away with theses

Sanders: no justification for a Director of Graduate Studies; other schools have purchased property abroad from which they run study abroad programs; this helps the cost of short-term study abroad programs

Pease: who consults us about programs abroad? CIEE programs are prohibitively expensive

Important Dates:

5/11	Advisory Council (3:15-4:15pm)
5/12	Italian Movie Night (NH 8 5:30-7:30)
5/13-5/15	Québécois film festival (5 th Ave. Cinema)
6/3	John Eliot Outstanding Teaching Awards (SMSU Ballroom 3-5pm)
6/3	Potluck at Steven Fuller's house (7-11pm)
6/3	Japanese Comedy in English (Studio Theater in Lincoln Hall 7-8:30pm)
6/9	WLL Graduation and Award Reception (Browsing Lounge 4:00 – 6:00 pm)
6/12	PSU commencement (Rose Garden Arena 2pm)