Foreign Languages and Literature Department Meeting

Neuberger Hall 393A
March 14, 2007

Attending: Jennifer Perlmutter, Steve Walton, Pelin Basci, Nila Friedberg, Ayal Yariv, Ann Wales, Gladys Perez, Bill Fischer, Martha Hickey, Angela Zagarella, Maji Rhee, Sandra Freels, Anousha Sedighi, Inger Olsen, Oscar Fernandez, David Thompson, Fernando Sanchez, DeLys Ostlund, Manya Wubbold Suwako Watanabe, Robert Sanders, Eva Nunez, Steve Wadley, Jonathan Pease

Manya Wubbold reported approximately 800 people attended the Mobile Consulate for Guatemala. Services included issuing IDs and visas.

Oscar Fernandez reported in behalf of the Cine Lit committee, Eva Nunez, Fernando Sanchez, Robert Sanders, and Guy Wood that the conference went very well, five directors were present, four from Mexico, one from Argentina. The Oregon Council for Humanities Grant is awarded to them and hopefully the conference will be hosted here again in three year.

Jennifer Perlmutter thanked the Italian Search committee, Angela Zagarella, and Pelin Basci for all of the work. Our new Assistant Professor, Silvia Boero comes to PSU from Chapel Hill, S.C. and is currently teaching at Duke. She will begin teaching Fall Term 2007.

Debra Di Piazza, joins our staff as Scheduling Assistant. Debra comes to our department from the Portland State Book store and in the future will also be helping with faculty book orders. Dr. Freels reminded faculty that book orders for summer for due May 15th.

Mark Wubbold will take over designing, posting, and maintaining our Web page for the next year. Dr. Freels asks all faculty to look at their language sections and submit any changes they may want.

FLL is under 10,000 SEH enrollment for the Spring Term 2007 as of today. Dr. Freels asks that section heads watch enrollment for multiple sections of a class that may be able to collapse into one class. She also encouraged faculty to suggest to students to enroll for classes as soon as possible.

Dr. Freels appreciates all the input she received from FLL sections concerning the budget. She told faculty that Steve March has said the Dean’s office has not been told of cuts yet, but there is strong opinion that with a 0 increase in the budget we will be asked to cut courses. Discussion was held on the possibility of cutting back FLL GTAs to .30 FTE instead of the .35 they now receive for teaching one course. Strong opinion was felt by all faculty that our GTA deserve what they are being paid at present. Steve Walton pointed out that our GTAs are responsible to teach one or two classes not just assist in them as in other departments. Dr. Fischer asked for a separate meeting to discuss how we
manage, and monitor our GTAs. Dr. Freels said there is a Grad Policy and it was suggested that a meeting could be organized through the Graduate Council.

Suwako Watanabe reported that the Assessment committee is working on the First Year Learning Objectives and data is being collected. Syllabi from French and Spanish collected to analyze teaching methods.

Dr. Freels discussed the Advising Initiative to implement a system for better accountability in Undergraduate advising. Plans to have all students meet an advisor upon declaring their major. Dean’s office looking for increased funding for professional advisors that students would meet from matriculation through graduation with faculty mentor in major to still advise on major requirements.

Film Studies major was discussed. Theater Arts wants to have the major within their department, the English Department will offer a minor and Theater Arts is happy to have any of film courses to fulfill electives in the major or minor.

Prof. Robert Sanders asked status of the Interpretation/Translation classes. These classes are self-support and Doug McCartney is working with our department to find space available to hold equipment for these. If space becomes available FLL is requesting we have it designated as Foreign Language & Literatures therefore, any Prof. wishing to have their class taped and streamed, it will be available.

Booklet on “Questions & Answers on Copyright for the Campus Community” handed around for faculty to review copyright issues.

Announcement:
New Culture and Civilization courses to be offered Italian and Persian Spring 2007. Josphat’s Service and Learning class in all languages will be held at Franklin High school. This class could lead to a capstone being offered.
NAJIT’s Society for the Study of Translation and Interpretation will hold workshops here March 24 -25. Dr. Freels announced that anyone wishing to participate, the department could help with some funding.
Manya Wubbold announced that the capstone class in the Amazon has been approved for Fall 2007.
Dr. Freels announced that the Russian Immersion program has begun at Kelley Elementary.

Upcoming Events:
April 4 Department Meeting 3:15-4:45
April 6 Heritage Fun Night
April 11 Advisory Council 3:15-4:45
Meeting adjourned 4:30