

## **Department of English, Literature, and Journalism**

### **Minutes**

**May 5, 2015**

**26D-3411**

**Present:** Albertson, Alvarez, Alvarez-Galvan, Aquino, Arterburn, Avila, Bartman, Brantingham, Churchill, Danson, DePaola, Dougherty, Enke, Estrada, Farve, Frahs, Garret, Gold-Wright, Gomez, Harper, Karn, Kordich, Loera-Ramirez, Mageean, McCormick, McFaul, Myers, O'Brien, Quintana-Mullane, Staylor, Thomas, Whalen

**Absent:** Allende, Cannon, Olds

**Leave:** Edson, Hight, Horton

- I. Margie Whalen called the meeting to order at 2:35 pm.
- II. Approval of April 7, 2015, minutes.
- III. Reports:
  - a) Chair's Report: Margie Whalen reported that the department hiring committee has offered Eddie Muniz a full-time, tenure-track position, starting in fall, pending Board approval. He has accepted. The department thanked the committee—Rocio Avila, Paul Frahs, Jim Thomas, Jim Jenkins, and Margie Whalen—for their “exhaustive and exhausting” work devoted to this hiring process.
  - b) Academic Senate: Holly Cannon reported that Senate is debating changes to our campus policy of devoting at least 10% of campus expenditures toward an unrestricted reserve fund (the Exec Board currently does not recommend this, but the arguments for or against this are not yet clear). Also, Senate has recently made changes to policy language regarding student success, based on recent changes and recommendations by the Matriculation Committee to the Student Success and Support Program. Any department member who wishes to learn more about these issues or provide feedback should contact Senate reps Holly Cannon or Paul O'Brien.
  - c) Faculty Association: Maya Alvarez-Galvan reported several items: those faculty who are 55 and older are eligible for new retirement options; the FA has drafted a new conflict of interest statement (a copy of the statement was handed out during the department meeting); and FA is discussing the possibility of not voting on new contracts during summer in order to get more active faculty participation (FA Exec Board currently favors summer voting, however, in order for certain

programs and resources to be ready for the new school year). Any feedback or questions on these issues can be brought to our department FA reps, Maya Alvarez-Galvan, Kristina Allende, or Frank Gomez.

- d) Assessment and Matriculation: Michelle Dougherty reported that she is stepping down from her position as Assessment and Matriculation rep to work on Basic Skills. Mike Harper volunteered and was approved to be the English department's new Assessment and Matriculation rep. Michelle further reports an AWE policy change where students moving up to English 67 will now require three multiple-measure points (instead of two). AWE facilitators will continue to use two points for students moving up to English 68 and 1A. Finally, "a third, expository prompt" will be available on the AWE soon.
- e) Writer's Day: John Brantingham reported that Writer's Day went well.
- f) Writing Center: Richard Meyers forwarded a report from David Charbonneau with several key reminders: the Writing Center has many workshops for the upcoming month (a schedule was emailed to department members); instructors requesting a TC for the summer term should contact Amy Azul; students with DLA obligations are encouraged to come to the WC sooner than later to beat the end-of-term rush; and all faculty participating in the DLA pilot program have a meeting on May 15 from 12:30 to 1:30 (details to be emailed soon).
- g) Journalism: Toni Albertson reported that there is no news at this time.

IV. Proposal Vote: Priority scheduling for FA or Senate representatives: Margie Whalen raised the discussion about whether representatives for the Faculty Association and Academic Senate should be given priority for scheduling. Since we have struggled in the past to find faculty both willing to serve and able to work their complex schedules around those meeting times, this would both create flexibility for reps and incentive to represent. The department voted unanimously to waive the 30-day rule and then voted unanimously to adopt the policy of creating a temporary pilot for spring 2016 scheduling prioritization for AS and FA reps. Based on this change, Hansel Alvarez agreed to become a Senate representative for the department.

V. Spring 2016 scheduling

Respectfully submitted,

Paul O'Brien