

Mt. San Antonio College
Foreign Language Department Approved
Meeting
Wednesday, March 12, 2014

Present Prof. M. Castillejos, Prof. C. P. Chang, Prof. S. A. Halabi, Prof. L. Howell, Prof. Y. McPhail,
Prof. S. Ott, Prof. P. Petry, Prof. A. Salinger, Prof. L. Sánchez

Item 1 **Approval of minutes from previous meetings**

- a) Dec 4, 2013 minutes approved with minor edits
Moved by Lizbet – Seconded by Serena – Approved unanimously
- b) Feb 22, 2014 Flex Day minutes approved with minor edits
Moved by Yuki – Seconded by Lizbet – Approved unanimously

Item 2a Curriculum: **Equivalencies for Italian, Chinese, Spanish**

Italian - The proposed equivalency for Italian was approved. It mirrors the French equivalency exactly.

Chinese - The nomenclature of American degree programs (East Asian Languages vs. Chinese Language) as well as the refusal in the past to accept TESL degrees held by native Chinese professors as equivalent to minimum qualifications has made the Chinese equivalency approval process difficult. Presently the Academic Senate would most likely approve a reworking of the Chinese equivalency proposal. Yuki has successfully implemented Japanese equivalencies and is willing to share her proposal drafts with Andrew.

Spanish – The need for an equivalency in Spanish was questioned since the pool of candidates meeting the minimum qualifications is very large. Luisa explained that the need for an equivalency would arise if there were to be Study Abroad programs in which foreign professors were asked to teach Mt. SAC courses. The Spanish group decided to discuss this matter during the Spanish language area meeting.

Item 2b Curriculum: **Linking classes**

Linking classes will begin in the Fall 2014 semester.

Item 2c Curriculum: **Honors classes**

It was decided that the following classes will be developed for honor courses:

SPAN 1, SPAN 2, SPAN 3, SPAN 4, SPAN 11, SPAN 12
FREN 1, FREN 2, FREN 3, FREN 4, FREN 60
ITAL 1, ITAL 2, ITAL 3, ITAL 4, ITAL 60
JAP 3, JAP 4

Andrew brought up concern about discrimination in stacked honors classes. He also voiced his concern that many Chinese students, a high number of whom are enrolled in the Honors Program, could take the Chinese language honors class out of convenience. Solène will follow up with professors of Arabic and German about creating honors courses for these languages.

Item 2d Curriculum: **English for students of foreign languages**

Prof. Santostefano had volunteered at the Flex Day meeting (2/22/14) to write a draft proposal of this type of workshop. It isn't clear, though, if it would be funded by Title V.

Item 2e Curriculum: **Placement tests**

Lízbet and Aaron attended a Heritage Language Conference at UCLA. They will be meeting with the counselor James Ocampo to discuss the correct placement of students in Spanish language classes.

Item 2f Curriculum: **The development of Spanish 10**

Luisa underlined the lack of funds at this point. The Director of Grants, Adrienne Price, could help create a grant proposal to promote this curriculum development.

Item 2g Curriculum: **Spanish Transfer Degree** - To be discussed at the Spanish meeting.

Item 2h Curriculum: **Creating a certificate**

The co-chairs proposed the creation of certificates. The requirement to obtain a certificate could be the completion of all levels of one language, two levels of a second language, and a related Humanities course. A professional course (such as interpreting for the courts) could replace the Humanities course. The name of such a certificate hasn't been determined yet. Manuel brought up the fundamentally professional nature of certificates, wondering whether our proposal would align with certificates already in place. It was decided to research certificates at other institutions. Serena will follow up with this.

Item 3 **Waitlists**

Solène and Luisa proposed adopting waitlists of twenty instead of ten students. The evidence of student demand for language classes would better support requests for additional sections.

Item 4 **Bulletin Board Committee**

It was decided that the Hospitality Committee will reimburse for Bulletin Board expenses such as printing pictures.

Item 5 **Hospitality Committee**

Yuki provided a summary of activity. Nine full-time faculty members contributed \$20 to the committee bringing the total funds to \$180. Manuel was reimbursed \$20 for his expenses. The total funds are now \$160. The need for both committee members to have access to the funds was reiterated.

Item 6 **Classroom observations and student evaluations update**

The list of evaluations was updated. Verónica Álvarez's evaluation by Manuel is pending. Melanie Liu's evaluation by Luisa is pending. Esther Vogel's student evaluations need to be redone. Valerio Giovanelli and Seema Atallah's need student evaluations in the Spring semester because they are teaching different preps.

Item 7 **Classroom observations in Spring 2014**

Dalia Gómez will be unofficially visited by Luisa and evaluated by Manuel. Enriqueta Leyva will be unofficially visited by Luisa. Evaluator TBD. Maria De Benedetto, Martha Blake, Antonio Fuentes will be evaluated after discussion with the Dean.

Item 8 **Hiring in German and Japanese**

There is a candidate for German. The German hiring committee includes Solène, Lízbet, Serena, and Petra. A Japanese hiring committee has been established. It includes Solène, Yuki, and Aaron. Others have volunteered to participate if necessary.

Item 9 **Faculty Association Report**

Luisa is no longer available to attend the meetings. Luisa explained that in the past there have been grievances with sabbaticals. We reviewed the academic calendar for 2015-16.

The next department meeting will be Apr 9, 2014
Minutes taken by Serena Ott