

## Minutes for Meeting of May 6, 2014

### Department of Geography and Political Science

1. **Minutes** from the meeting of April 8, 2014 were approved without revision.

#### **2. Course Reviews**

- a. There was a unanimous vote to remove Political Science 1 as a prerequisite for Political Science 2 since a lower division American Government course is not generally required before students take a lower division Comparative Politics course at most universities.
- b. Eligibility for English 1A was unanimously approved as a hard prerequisite for Geography 2 and Geography 5.
- c. Political Science 25 will undergo a change in the catalogue to match what already appears in the Schedule of Classes to "Latino political thought and action and how it is influenced and shaped by American institutions at the national, state and local levels."
- d. The department had a lengthy discussion about English prerequisites for Political Science courses and agreed to revisit the issue at a future meeting.

#### **3. Awards**

- a. Professor James Stone was named an Educator of Distinction.
- b. Professor Stone was also awarded a College Champion award earlier in the 2013-2014 academic term.

#### **4. Earth Day Event**

- a. Professor Stone reported that there were over 100 people in attendance at the recently held forum on sustainability.
- b. He also noted that President Scroggins has pledged to sign the American University and College Presidents' Commitment on Climate Change.
- c. Attendees were impressed with innovations at Butte College and were interested in replicating those changes here.

#### **5. Supply/Maintenance**

- a. Elizabeth reported that she expressed our concerns to the division over the inadequate state of cleanliness in our classrooms and in the hallways.
- b. Maxine added that room G210 routinely has a mess on Monday that appear to be from the room's utilization over the weekends.

- c. Tyler mentioned that he still feels the need to sweep his own classroom and expressed a desire to be relieved of this duty by the people who are paid for such work.

#### **6. Division Report**

- a. There is a stipend available for faculty who wish to link courses. All interested should consult with the department chair.
- b. Elizabeth summarized the division meeting's discussion of how to rank requests for new faculty hires. She relayed the fact that there will be new criteria to attempt to make them more objective. The consensus among department chairs in the division is that those who are denied tenure should automatically be replaced. Retirees should not be. Those who die during tenure review should be replaced but not necessarily people who die after they receive tenure.

#### **7. Request for New Hires**

- a. The department voted to request two replacement hires for Jerry Allen and James Chisholm by a unanimous vote.
- b. Political Science sections fill up before most other departments, including Psychology, and should therefore be given a high priority for new hires in the college.

#### **8. Nomination:**

- a. Curtis nominated Elizabeth Lobb to be the Chair of the Department of Geography and Political Science for 2014-2015.
- b. Dafna seconded the motion.

#### **9. Fall schedules** were distributed for approval.

Minutes taken by Tyler Trull