

# Department of English & Philosophy Meeting Minutes for April 5, 2005

## Attending:

### English

Jennifer Adkison  
Steve Adkison  
Brian Attebery  
Jennifer Attebery  
Keith Comer  
Terry Engebretsen  
Janne Goldbeck  
Hal Hellwig  
Alan Johnson  
Margaret Johnson

Kathleen King  
Alan Johnson  
Margaret Johnson  
Kathleen King  
Kathleen King  
Sonja Launspach  
Bern Mulvey  
Brian Norman  
Roger Schmidt  
Susan Swetnam

Curt Whitaker  
Vince Willoughby  
Jessica Winston  
Michael Corrigan  
Brandon Hall  
Dawn Lattin  
Keith Vanbezooyen  
Kay Walter

### Philosophy

Ralph Maugham  
Michael Pelletti  
Jim Skidmore  
Russell Wahl  
Melissa Norton

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m.

## Announcements

JFAC has approved a tentative 1% raise for the salary, dependent upon a state budget surplus of \$124 million.

The Department attendance policy remains in place – if students miss the equivalent of more than two weeks of class, they may fail the course.

Foreign languages is putting together a conference for next fall regarding the publication anniversary of *Don Quixote*. This will be a one-day conference and faculty from other departments are encouraged to contribute. The conference will likely take place the first weekend in November.

English as a Second Language notes: The University has contracted with ELS for instruction and will be opening a center at ISU in the Continuing Education building. The NOI for our TESOL certificate was approved by the CAAP committee and is scheduled to be on the agenda at the SBOE's April meeting. Courses for this should begin in the spring, following Sonja's sabbatical.

## Reports from (Standing) Committees

Policy & Personnel:

No news to report.

Graduate:

Separate graduate faculty meeting following the Department meeting.

Research & Prof. Development:

Kathleen King will have a Work in Progress seminar

on April 22nd. FRC grants were due Friday 4/8/05.

English Undergraduate:	No news to report.
Philosophy Undergraduate:	Separate Philosophy faculty meeting after the Department meeting. There will be a Philosophy colloquium on April 15th.
Composition:	No news to report.
Special Programs:	Friday, April 8th from 1-2 pm there will be a c.v. panel discussion for the graduate students. The panel will have Jessica, Brian Norman, Jennifer Attebery and Jennifer Adkison (moderator).
Faculty Senate:	Domestic partners' benefits should be the subject of an announcement in next week's <i>News and Notes</i> .

## New Business

### Ad-Hoc Committee on Mentoring Recommendation (handout from the Department office)

Janne discussed the general recommendations from the report. A number of faculty noted the need to address Departmental tenure and promotion guidelines more completely, if the mentoring program aims were to be achieved. Additionally, the relationship of the faculty annual reviews to Departmental and College tenure and promotion guidelines was discussed and regarded as needing further clarification in light of Departmental concerns and the external Departmental accreditation review. A number of faculty noted the need to explore and address these issues at the Department level in the near future.

Janne noted that we need to engage in these discussions within the Department, but that we need to act soon for those junior faculty facing tenure and promotion decisions in the near future. Russell noted that this was an important need as well. Terry asked if we should accept this as a draft plan for fall 2005 faculty mentoring. Kathleen asked that we amend this to include a discussion of Department tenure and promotion standards. A ballot for this will appear in faculty mailboxes.

### Department Action Plan

Steve noted that with respect to the ad-hoc committee's "final note," many other committees and groups across campus are working to have any changes come from the

Department rather than being mandated from above. Terry noted that some of the recommendations from the external review were rather vague. Jessica asked whether the non-tenure track faculty recommendations addressed the actual situation of our non-tenure track faculty. Michael noted that some instructors have been told that they are only allowed to teach 090, 101, 102, and 110. Steve noted that the funding from Continuing Education for these instructor positions is sometimes contingent upon specific courses. Brian N. noted that he is concerned about the erosion of tenure and funding and whether or not this recommendation might have undesired consequences. The faculty will be able to vote on this report and its recommendations.

## **Old Business**

### Final Exam Policy

Terry will circulate a document concerning this, but there are questions about the discrepancies between the Faculty Senate, Dean's Council, and Departmental guidelines. More on this will be communicated as information is received.

### Other

Kathleen has provided a list of courses required for dual majors with the new recommendations for undergraduate requirements (professional / creative writing emphases).

**The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.**