

Department of English & Philosophy Meeting Minutes for February 8, 2005

Attending:

English

Jennifer Adkison
Brian Attebery
Keith Comer
Terry Engebretsen
Janne Goldbeck
Alan Johnson

Margaret Johnson
Kathleen King
Sonja Launspach
Tracy Montgomery
Bern Mulvey
Brian Norman

Roger Schmidt
Susan Swetnam
Curt Whitaker
Vince Willoughby
Jessica Winston

Philosophy

Carl Levenson
Russell Wahl
Melissa Norton

The meeting began at 2:30 p.m.

Reports from (Standing) Committees

Policy & Personnel:

All faculty will be contacted by a member of P&P with regard to perceptions of the candidate visits.

Graduate:

No new business to report.

Research & Prof. Development:

Feb 18th – Jennifer Attebery will be presenting some of her research on Swedish-American immigrant letters
March 4th – Keith Comer will be discussing Texas Tech's composition evaluation system for a "what's new in your field" discussion

English Undergraduate:

Working on standardizing the ENGL 348 requirements.
Working on the revision to the professional writing degree option to eliminate the MassComm courses (which only their majors are allowed to take).
Also, undergraduate scholarship award recommendations will be requested soon.
(Chair's note: MassComm generally only allows our majors to enroll in their courses during the summer, but advisors should note this for current majors in the writing option.)

Philosophy Undergraduate:

No new business to report.

Composition:

Making recommendations for the professional writing option to the undergraduate committee.
CATALYST handbook software & online resource demonstrations on the Feb 24th between 10-2

Special Programs:	Brown bag discussion for graduate students for preparing C.V.s; panel discussion on getting book and article manuscripts through the review project (Feb 22); working on a campus speaker in April.
Faculty Senate:	Domestic partner proposal presented to the Faculty Senate with respect to “soft” vs. “hard” benefits.

Announcements & New Business

Accreditation Report – discussion of the report and the findings that were regarded as “not in compliance.” All faculty attending received a copy of the report with the findings and recommendations noted. Terry discussed the general report, which did not address faculty or teaching concerns very extensively. Jennifer Attebery asked about “recommendation 8” (regarding faculty workload, qualifications, and expectations). Terry noted that the Faculty Senate will be involved with addressing this part of the report. In response to Russell’s question concerning next year’s follow-up visit, the review committee will not likely be composed of the same personnel. Concerns about ISU’s four- and five-year graduation rates were also discussed.

Plagiarism procedures – Margaret (Assistant Dean of Arts & Sciences) visited to clarify some of the issues surrounding plagiarism procedures. Faculty were asked to review the Faculty Handbook with respect to academic dishonesty section. Terry will provide some additional written guidelines for submitting plagiarism incident reports.

Summer Reading Program – Vince and Jennifer Adkison are on the summer book program committee. Vince noted there is about a week left to submit suggestions for this summer’s selection (ideally a book that has cross-disciplinary appeal, is developmentally useful, not overly difficult/long, it can address controversial issues, can have some regional or international appeal). Last summer’s selection was *Fast Food Nation*. Suggestions for this year include: *On the Color Line*, *Reading Lolita in Tehran*, *Nickel and Dimed in America*. Jennifer noted that there are hoping to bring the author to campus (depending upon costs involved). Suggestions can be made at: <[<www.isu.edu/union/summer_reading.htm\(l\)>](http://www.isu.edu/union/summer_reading.htm(l))>, or send the title via e-mail to Vince or Jennifer. Also, searching the ISU website for “summer reading” will note the program links.

Final Examination Policy – Terry noted that the University no longer expressly requires final exams, although Departmental policy is for all courses except seminars to have such exams. Do the faculty want to change Departmental policy to reflect the broader University guidelines? Tracy recommended that P&P approve a more liberal policy in line with the University one.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.