

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND PHILOSOPHY
DEPARTMENT MEETING
MINUTES
TUESDAY, April 7, 2009; 2:30pm; LA 256

Attending: J. Adkison, B. Attebery, T. Engebretsen, S. Goslee, H. Hellwig, A. Johnson, T. Klein, S. Launspach, C. Levenson, R. Schmidt, L. Shuttters, S. Swetnam, R. Wahl, C. Whitaker, B. Wolter.

1. Announcements

a. Chair

- i. Gary Olson, the new Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs is planning on visiting the department in the coming days.
- ii. The budget remains in flux. The College of Arts and Sciences has responded well to the cutbacks thus far, and it seems unlikely more cuts will be necessary.

b. Undergraduate Committee

- i. A survey seeking faculty feedback on proposed curriculum revisions will be circulated soon.
- ii. The committee is planning to hold a party honoring our graduating undergraduate and graduate students. Details regarding the date and time will be announced at a later time.
- iii. The committee chair announced that requests regarding allocation of classrooms for the fall semester should be sent to Kristina Turner.

c. Graduate Committee

- i. The committee announced it is planning to hold a series of town hall meeting regarding the M.A. program.
- ii. The committee is considering reviewing the graduate seminar proposal process.

d. Composition Committee

- i. The committee announced that it would be holding a panel discussion on plagiarism on April 9.
- ii. The committee announced that its review of English 102 textbooks is nearly complete. Details to follow.
- iii. The committee announced that it was continuing its work on the ISU Guide to Student Composition.
- iv. The committee announced that it was reviewing submissions for the student essay contest and a formal announcement of the winners would be forthcoming.

e. Faculty Senate

- i. The senator announced the upcoming switch to the new email system which is scheduled for some time in the fall.
- ii. The senator informed faculty that the Senate is continuing its work on revisions to various draft policies regarding faculty.

2. Continuing business

- a. Journal cuts stemming from reductions in the library's budget have been announced. If you have any comments or questions, please speak with Curt Whitaker before April 10.

3. New business

- a. P&P announced that it had drafted a proposal for the creation of a new administrative post in the department. The position would combine the current duties of the Assistant Chair and the Chair of the Undergraduate Committee (perhaps along with expanded supervision of student advising). Faculty members will be asked to vote by ballot on whether or not they approve of the creation of the new post.
- b. P&P is working on a number of formal descriptions for administrative duties within the department. The descriptions are designed (in part) to provide a formal basis for evaluating the work of administrators in accordance with the proposed changes to the university workload policy. Comments regarding the descriptions can be addressed to the Chair or other P&P members.
- c. Faculty members will be asked to vote by ballot on whether or not they approve of the draft document detailing the department's principle statement regarding partner accommodation.

Adjourned: 3:50pm

Respectfully submitted by Brent Wolter, Interim Assistant Chair