

Department of English & Philosophy Meeting Minutes for May 2, 2006 (English Faculty Only)

Attending:

Adkison, J	Klein, T
Adkison, S	Launspach, S
Attebery, B	Montgomery, T.
Attebery, J	Mulvey, B
Cantrill, D	Norman, B
Dodd, M	Person, F
Engebretsen, T	Schmidt, R
Goldbeck, J	Shein, D.
Hellwig, H	Swetnam, S
Johnson, A	Whitaker, C
Johnson, M	Willoughby, V.
Kijinski, J.	Winston, J.
King, K	Wolter, B.

The meeting began at 2:35 p.m.

Announcements

The vote to create English 448 for the Senior Creative Project passed.

The spring Department picnic is this Friday.

The scholarship deadline for the undergraduate awards was extended, and there now are three nominees for each. Applications are still being accepted until May 8th.

Reports from (Standing) Committees

English Undergraduate: There was an ad-hoc award of funding to two students in the Department.

Composition: Student essay award reception will be this Thursday at 2:30 in the Department reading room. Refreshments will be provided.

New Business

The main agenda for the faculty today is the graduate program PhD proposal. The Dean has been handed the initial proposal for submission to ISU's 8-year Strategic Plan.

The independent internships should be on the “working plan” (proposal 2) – that was an omission from the draft.

With respect to the “name change for the Doctor of Arts” program to a “PhD program” (proposal 1), Kathleen moved that we accept proposal 1; proposal was seconded. The “working plan” has a 54-hour program (with 15 dissertation credits) with an anticipated length of 3-4 years. Only two other universities in the nation – Memphis State and St. John’s in New York – continue to offer DA degrees. When Illinois State moved from a DA to the PhD, the only change was the name. Brian A. noted that the name issue is less significant for placing graduates in positions than recruiting new students and the place of the program in the Idaho educational system. The proposal for the name change will be placed on a ballot for voting by graduate faculty in the Department.

Proposal 2: Curricular changes for a prospective PhD plan. Hal moved to adopt; Jennifer Attebery seconded. This proposal does drop the requirement for an interdisciplinary component (12 credits) to the degree. Brian noted that the independent teaching internships from the current DA curriculum should have been noted as being retained in the proposal.

Steve suggested a multiple set of proseminars for each area (teaching literature, teaching composition, teaching languages...). Tom noted the lack of library resources with respect to longer dissertation and research projects. Kurt noted that Susan desired a requirement about genre studies as well; also, she was concerned that we would not have enough faculty to offer all these courses on a regular basis so that students could make choices for their research areas. A number of faculty commented that the new 612 course (“combining” 611 & 613) should be a team-taught course.

The graduate committee will review the comments from this meeting and then revise their curricular changes proposal for consideration early next autumn. The name change probably cannot be considered until the SBOE considers this. We will be voting on proposal 1 in the next week; proposal 2 will not be voted on until it is revised for the fall.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.