

Minutes English Department Meeting
Wednesday 16 August 2017
(Afternoon)

In attendance: Kristi Maxwell, Bronwyn Williams, Denise Tanner, Robin Mozer, Mark Mattes, Joshua Adams, Rick Wysocki, Matthew Biberman, Timothy Johnson, Mary P. Sheridan, Joe Turner, Steve Smith, Mary Rosner, Michael Phillips, Kiki Petrosino, David Anderson, Karen Chandler, Hristomir Stanev, Bruce Horner, Joan D'Antoni, Karen Kopelson, Susan Griffin, Paul Griner, Elaine Wise, Ian Stansel, Frank Kelderman, Frances McDonald (taking minutes).

Welcome (1:05pm)

Announcements

- Welcome Visiting Professor LuMing Mao of Miami University of Ohio
- Sunday Aug 27 Welcome Back Party at Susan Ryan's house, from 3pm-6pm.

Motion passed (unanimous): To insert language into the English Department bylaws to codify the role of graduate students in department governance.

- Only T and TT faculty can vote on personnel matters
- Search committees will include a grad student representation

Writing Center: Bronwyn Williams

- Report on 2016/17 activity. Set records for appointments in both Fall and Spring.
- Call for faculty to invite WC reps to their classes in Fall and Spring.
- LGBTQ writing group, community writing groups

Composition: Beth Willey

- Report on 2016/17 #s
- Vast majority of program taught by PTLs and rest shared between GTAs and full-time term faculty.
- There are 18 sections of distance ed. currently running. Aim to continue training people in DE in 17/18.
- Report on the assessment of 101, 102, 105 – generally good, exhibited a weakness in the cultural diversity rubric.
- Diversity training will be a requirement for anyone teaching in the program.
- Severed relationship with publisher and aim to move to SoftChalk module by end of year. The handbook of student writing will be ready by early next week.
- Promote pedagogy workshops by offering "Pedagogy Fellow" certificates to those who attend 4+ workshops and write a short reflection.

Duel Credit: Steve Smith

- Report on 2016/17 numbers (numbers are up, probably because classes are free. This is despite the fact that 1 school has dropped)
- Scholarship program is now up and running
- Rundown on teachers of Duel Credit.

Creative Writing: Kiki Petrosino

- Offering two hybrid (creative-critical) courses, and an online creative writing course (ENGL 599, Dr. Sarah Strickley) in F17.
- The CW minor will continue to expand online creative writing offerings in the future.
- Announcement of this year's Axton Reading Series (info on website)
- The cash prize for the Calvino Prize has increased to \$2000
- *Miracle Monocle* successful release. Launching crowdfunding campaign in October to raise approx. \$2000 for the journal through "Elevate" platform.
- Website has been revamped to raise profile of minor.

Undergraduate Program: Hristomir Stanev

- Report on 2016/17 #s (down a little overall, gained in minor).
- Relayed the Dean's request that we perform class visits to share feedback on teaching with the Dean's office. Susan Ryan suggests that tenured people volunteer as the first set of assessors.

Library

- Library is preparing for substantial reductions in collections.
 - Cancelled *ODNB*.
 - *Literature Online* may be cancelled due to low use. Call for faculty who use this resource to email Library to let them know.
 - Call for department to be consulted about housing books that are no longer going to be circulated in the library
- *MLA International Bibliography* is changing from Proquest to Gale.
- Call for faculty to create profiles on Institutional Repository to help disseminate their research.
- Library website has been revamped (library.louisville.edu). Highlights "Research DIY" – a set of online tutorials to help students with scholarly research.

Internship: Karen Chandler

- Reports on 16/17 internship positions and numbers (10 students total)
- Trend toward tech related positions (web design/development)
- Aim to add internship alum reflections on Department website.
- Call to promote the internship program to wider student body.

DGS: Karen Kopelson

- Reports on 16/17 #s
 - Low pool of applicants at PhD and MA levels (due probably to comparatively low stipends and high teaching loads)

- Strong placement for PhDs. 100% placement rate to full-time academic jobs, 50% placement rate to TT jobs
- Program was streamlined in 16/17 – reduced credit hours from 36-30, overhaul of comp exam process.
- In 17/18, aim to review department's diversity plan, recruitment practices, exam protocols (particularly SLA), and mission statements.
- There is a handbook for graduate student internships, available on website.

Watson: Bruce Horner and Mary P. Sheridan

- Report on Watson Conference, which was a success.
- Announced talk on **October 24th** by Visiting Professor LuMing Mao of Miami University of Ohio, "Useful Uselessness: Engaging the Rhetorics of the Other Artfully.
- Funding is down by 30% that will impact future Watson Conferences
- Moving the Symposium to Sep 8th and 9th to accommodate graduate student schedules.
- Please respond to RSVP in email to organize catering.

DMA: Mary P. Sheridan

- A success, with lots of good press in 16/17
- Is working to discontinue DMA by transitioning its materials over to JCPS due to lack of time.

Resurfaced: Kristi Maxwell

- Organized a recruitment event for/celebration of English major and creative writing minor, which has been postponed.
- Aim to rehome in Red Barn as a kick-off event in early Spring.

Meeting adjourned, 3:05pm.