

University of Louisville - Faculty Senate (FS) - Academic Programs Committee (APC)

Committee report for FS meeting on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020

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Meetings related to the closure of the MA French program.

- APC met with Bonnie Fonseca-Greber, a French faculty at 2 pm on 1/8/2020.
- APC met with David Brown, Associate Dean for Graduate Education in the College of Arts & Sciences at 3 pm on 1/21/2020.
- APC met with 4 French faculty at 2 pm on 2/5/2020.

APC has drafted a recommendation to return the proposal of closing the French MA program to the College of Arts and Sciences for a fresh start. (Please see the attached document.)

No new proposals have been received by APC to review at this point.

**To:** UofL Faculty Senate  
**From:** UofL Faculty Senate Academic Program Committee  
**Date:** February 28, 2020

**Re:** Closure proposal of French MA Program

**Summary of findings:**

1. There is no evidence or reporting trail of any formal voting from faculty involved with the French program. It has been reported that each faculty was consulted individually by the former Chair of Classical and Modern Languages, but no documentation exists to sustain that such consultations occurred.
2. Based on APC interviews with the French faculty, it is evident that the difference between suspension and closure of the program was not clearly explained to the faculty involved.
3. The French faculty were not given adequate time or resources to come up with a remedy plan to increase enrollment. In addition, two GTA spots were cut from the program and a retired faculty was not replaced.
4. In the Spring of 2019, a majority of the Arts and Sciences Faculty assembly (40 out of 75) voted to oppose the closure of the French MA program, but former Dean of A&S overruled that vote and recommended closure for the program.

**APC recommendation:**

Since there were deficiencies in transparency and due process on the part of the A&S administration, and there was a lack of fact disclosure to the French faculty which inhibited their involvement as an informed group, APC recommends the proposal of closing the French MA program to return to the unit for a fresh start.