

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

Committee report for Staff Senate meeting on March 9th, 2020

Prepared by Sarah Frankel, Committee Representative for Staff Senate

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**Two proposals were passed by the Faculty Senate on January 8th, 2020**

- Bachelors in Business Administration (BBA) from the College of Business
- MS in Materials and Energy Science & Engineering (MS MESE) from the Speed School of Engineering

**Meetings related to the closure of the MA French program**

- APC met with Bonnie Fonseca-Greber, a French faculty member 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 3 French faculty at 2 pm on 2/5/2020

**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.

**The APC did not meet in March. Our next scheduled meeting will be April 1 at 2 p.m.**