

## Department of English Faculty Meeting

Friday, September 8, 2017

11:30 am – 12:45 pm – JUB 100

Submitted by: Karen Hillman

Attending: Mohammed Albakry, Fred Arroyo, Maria Bachman, Patricia Baines, Julie Barger, Poushali Bhadury, Aleka Blackwell, Pat Bradley, Will Brantley, Shaun Cullen, Ellen Donovan, Kevin Donovan, Laura Dubek, Patricia Gaitely, Jill Hague, Jim Hamby, Allen Hibbard, Martha Hixon, Marion Hollings, Bob Holtzclaw, Mark Jackson, Ron Kates, Becky King, Bill Levine, StarShield Lortie, Alfred Lutz, Rhonda McDaniel, Candie Moonshower, Michael Neth, Joy Nettles, Carl Ostrowski, Sheila Otto, Kate Pantelides, Sarah Perkins, Bob Petersen, Mischa Renfro, Ted Sherman, Kathleen Therrien, Warren Tormey, Chris Weedman, Laura White.

Absent (T/TT): Claudia Barnett, Gaylord Brewer, Jimmie Cain\*, Jim Comas, Elvira Casal, Bene Cox, Eric Detweiler\*, Elyce Helford, Justyna Kostkowska, Tina Johnson, Jid Lee\*, Jenny Marchant\*, Pete McCluskey\*.

(\* designates teaching conflict)

- I. Maria Bachman called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.
- II. CLA Dean Karen Petersen
  - a. English and CLA Enrollments. Provided data on the ongoing, precipitous decline in English Major enrollments. The percentage change in English majors from 2009-2017 is -46%, the lowest in the College. Dean Petersen discussed ways that other CLA departments have successfully increased their major enrollments, including programmatic/curricular changes and faculty participation in community college recruiting and on-campus recruiting events. Dr. Petersen also noted that departments where T/TT faculty regularly teach Gen Ed courses each semester (and recruit in those Gen Ed classes) have seen an increase in enrollments.  
(Dr. Bachman noted that on the positive side, the English Department was up to 97 English Minors since January 2017, thanks to the aggressive efforts of our CLA advisors.)
  - b. Chair Search: Dr. Petersen announced the members of the Department Chair Search Committee: Roger Pieroni (chair), Ellen Donovan, Julie Barger, Ted Sherman, Bob Holtzclaw, and Mohamed Albakary. Moving forward, Dean Petersen will prepare the position advertisement and send a draft to the committee for their review. Dean Petersen hopes that the committee will have identified a list of finalists from the candidate pool by January 2018 so that an offer can be made as early as February.
- III. ENGL 1020 Assessment Results were presented by Aleka Blackwell. Handouts were sent to the faculty on ENGL-Fac-L list serve.
- IV. English Major Assessment Results were presented by Maria Bachman. Handouts will be sent to faculty on ENGL-Fac-L list serve. Fifty-two student portfolios were evaluated. Discussion was held regarding revising the process. Dr. Bachman will form an ad hoc committee to review current portfolio requirements and explore an “in-house” test rather than the current ETS Major Field Test.

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- V. State of the Major
- a. Dr. Bachman stressed the necessity for ongoing revisions to English program/curriculum to reverse the enrollment decline. Discussion was held regarding the possibility of rebranding the department/major, creating a B.S. degree in English, initiating cross- and interdisciplinary collaborations, and expanding online UD offerings. Michael Neth made a motion to begin discussion on the creation of a B.S. degree in English, which was seconded by Ted Sherman. That discussion will begin on the ENGL-Fac-L and continue at the October faculty meeting.  
Dr. Bachman will also form an Ad Hoc committee for Community College Outreach Initiatives.
  - b. Recruitment Initiatives for AY 2017-2018. The English Major Meet & Greet scheduled for next week will be postponed in order to host a larger recruitment event sometime before fall break.
- VI. Director Reports
- a. Graduate (Dr. Kevin Donovan): Following the restructuring of the MA program, the PhD program will be reviewed this year.
  - b. Undergraduate Studies (Dr. Ron Kates): Encouraged faculty to submit new course or special topics proposals.
  - c. Gen Ed English (Dr. Julie Barger, Dr. Kate Pantelides): Provided brief overview of Gen Ed English and New GTA orientations.
  - d. UWC (Dr. Jim Hamby, Associate Director). Reported that the UWC has been very busy the first two weeks of school. Encouraged faculty to have their students make tutoring appointments with the UWC.
- VII. Announcements/Reminders
- CLA Fall Faculty meeting: Friday, 9/15/17
- Blue Mars Initiative – CGS-sponsored opportunity for cross-disciplinary innovation/collaborations. First meeting: Friday, 9/15/17
- FRCAC Deadline: Friday, 9/22/17.
- VIII. Meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm.