

Minutes of the Meeting
of the Department of History
December 6, 2006

Those present: Mr. Olsen, chair; Ms. Chirhart, Mr. Clark, Mr. Fischer, Ms. Foster, Mr. Giffin, Mr. Hawkins, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Land, Ms. Phillips, Mr. Schneirov, Ms. Shoemaker, Ms. Skinner, Mr. Stofferahn.

Those absent: Mr. Nichols.

Mr. Olsen called the meeting to order at 3:17 PM.

Mr. Giffin moved approval of the minutes of the previous meeting. Ms. Skinner seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Announcements

Nominations for the Educational Excellence Awards are due to the dean by December 19. Mr. Olsen reviewed the deadlines for the spring semester.

Ms. Chirhart announced she would collect contributions for Christmas gifts for the office staff.

Ms. Foster announced that an article on H300 will appear in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* next week.

Committees

Assessment – Mr. Olsen, in Mr. Nichols' behalf, reminded faculty to turn in papers for history majors' assessment files.

Budget Mr. Fischer reported that most of the available travel funds have been committed. Funds have been requested to bring in one speaker.

Curriculum Mr. Hawkins asked for department approval of the following course proposals:

- H331 – US Workers' Fight for Justice
- H439- European Women's History
- H450 – Nation-building, Development and Democracy
- H4xx- - The Birth of Europe

Mr. Hunter moved approval; Ms. Foster seconded. The proposals were approved unanimously.

Mr. Hawkins and Mr. Olsen submitted revised language for the History Honors policy. Mr. Hunter moved approval; Mr. Giffin seconded. The revision was approved unanimously.

The department discussed, and then moved to table, the question of whether to create a separate oral history course.

For purposes of tracking course rotation, Carolyn will prepare a spreadsheet and circulate it via e-mail to faculty once per year.

Graduate Committee

Mr. Giffin reported that the committee recommended the following students for assistantships:

Peter Belser – full-time for the coming term, plus a nine-hour fee waiver

Amy Parkison – a nine-hour fee waiver

Mr. Hawkins moved approval; Mr. Land seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Olsen circulated a revision of the Contract of Study for Graduate Students. These contracts are for majors who began the program Fall 2006 and after. He asked that the faculty read it and submit suggested changes to Mr. Schneirov.

The committee noted that it will revise the graduate student assessment plan in the spring, as well as continuing to discuss the idea of a comprehensive exam.

Old Business

Mr. Olsen said the CAS website for commenting on the proposed reorganization will be taken down soon. He said that the Women's Studies Department has proposed a School of Interdisciplinary Studies.

Mr. Olsen circulated a list of majors not yet enrolled for spring. He noted that enrollment for spring is 10% above the figure at this time last year.

Mr. Olsen reminded faculty that students who enroll in the oral history class (Ms. Chirhart's H499) are eligible to apply for a \$500 stipend from the Research Center for Local History.

New Business

The department should decide in the spring whether to pursue a search for an Asianist in 2007-2008.

Mr. Olsen noted that, for the fall 2007 schedule, he would like to move some classes from TTh to MWF. He asked faculty to volunteer to have their classes moved.

The meeting adjourned at 4:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Shoemaker
Secretary for Departmental Meetings