

Department of History
Departmental Meeting
May 6, 2009
3:00 p.m.

Meeting called to order by Mr. Olsen at 3:05 p.m.

Present: Chirhart, Clark, Fischer, Foster, Hawkins, Hunter, Land, Nichols, Olsen, Phillips, Schneirov, Skinner, and Stofferahn.

Absent: Giffin

Approval of Minutes from April 15, 2009. Ms. Skinner moved, Mr. Clark seconds. Approved 13-0-0.

Announcements:

Mr. Olsen announced:

General Education (i.e., Foundational Studies beginning fall 2010) will require re-certification of all courses that are to be offered for FS credit. Starting in August 2009 we will need to have a focused discussion as to what classes we want to submit for FS credit, both in Historical Studies and the upper-level electives category. The deadline for HS classes is scheduled for mid-October, and for upper-division FS courses in November.

Faculty should submit Spring 2010 schedule requests by end of May.

Fall 2009 enrollments are somewhat unpredictable at this point; it is important to remain flexible. An increasing number of students take their Gen Ed History courses elsewhere, which further complicates our planning. Discussion ensued on ways to improve the number of History majors and minors.

The vote on the possible reorganization of African and African American Studies with History was reported as 8-1. Having discussed the vote and proposal with those faculty members who missed the previous meeting it seemed unnecessary to re-open the question. The revised narrative will be forwarded to the Faculty Council for its consideration in August 2009.

Committee Reports:

Assessment Committee (Mr. Nichols)

The committee met today and finished the evaluation of eleven graduating undergraduate seniors from Fall 2008. The Bryant Spann Memorial Scholarship will not be issued this year (for academic year 2009-10).

No report from the Budget Committee.

Graduate Committee (Mr. Olsen)

At today's meeting we admitted two new graduate students for the Fall.

Thirteen students have applied for the 4.5 graduate assistantship (GA) positions. The committee had a difficult decision. The committee proposes the following for departmental approval:

Bobbie Zapor – half-time GA (anticipated Debs Fellowship recipient) and full-time scholarship

Colin Foral – full-time GA and full-time scholarship

Laura Cannon -- full-time GA and full-time scholarship

Brandon Platt -- full-time GA and full-time scholarship

Michelle Thoman – half-time GA and full-time scholarship

Brad Crow – half-time GA and full-time scholarship

Zack Hatton – full-time scholarship for Fall 2009.

Vote to approve: 13-0-0.

By-laws:

Mr. Nichols suggested that because the by-laws allow for students to address department meeting, should they not also include staff? Majority agreed to amend the by-laws to include this. Miscellaneous discussion followed to clarify some grammatical points in the proposed by-laws.

Ms. Skinner moves to approve by-laws; Mr. Hunter seconds. Motion passed 13-0-0.

Mr. Nichols moves that the department re-visit by-laws pertaining to Salary Committee in Fall 2009. Ms. Chirhart seconds. Motion passed 13-0-0.

Olsen adjourns meeting at 4:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Isaac Land