**Department of Humanities**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** March 8, 2024 — 2:00 p.m.

**Location:** Virtual (Zoom)

**Chair:** Monica Krupinski

**Minutes:** Mike McGowan

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Present | Absent | Excused |
| Ciamparella | X |  |  |
| DeMoran | X |  |  |
| Harrington | X |  |  |
| Krupinski | X |  |  |
| McGowan | X |  |  |
| Mompoint | X |  |  |
| Pritchett | X |  |  |
| Sutter |  | X |  |
| Others |  | | |

1. Approval of minutes from February
   1. Correction from Monique: the Feb. minutes said she’s working on an AI policy, but she’s not. Rather, she was asking the department whether we wanted to work on one or wait for Karen McGuire.
   2. We’ll approve updated Feb minutes next month.
2. Visit from Dr. Rebecca Harris
   1. Writing Intensive designation: GEAC has been considering a proposal to expand the Writing Intensive designation to courses outside SoAHSS
   2. Courses impacted for 2024-5 Academic year: HUM 2020, PHI 2010
   3. Offerings of specific courses:
      1. HUM 2211 (10 other schools: 7 SCs and 3 universities) and HUM 2235 (offered at 4 other schools) were “low use” in other schools
      2. HUM 2210 and HUM 2230 (offered at 25 other schools) were offered at 20-30+ other schools.
      3. Suggestion: retitle HUM 2250 to be “Contemporary Humanities” course (which is offered at 13 other schools; some schools use HUM 2252).
   4. Course to be impacted for Fall 2025: “Arts and Cultures of the Caribbean”
   5. CONVERSATION WITH REBECCA
      1. Started exploring this when she was GEAC chair four years ago
      2. Reason: other institutions don’t have restriction on what “counts” as writing intensive (didn’t know where our restrictions came from). They thought to open it up, thought they made the change, but it never went through curriculum committee
      3. A writing across curriculum (WAC) person: money is an issue, but we can agitate for a PD module to refresh memory of writing instruction
      4. POST CONVERSATION VOTE: Our department’s shared sentiment: this is a solution in search of a problem. Out of 7 people in the department…
         1. 7 do not feel it is necessary to expand the writing intensive designation
         2. 5 actively opposed it until we know (a) who’s doing the PD, (b) the number of words, and (c) course enrollment numbers.
         3. 2 abstained/neutral on whether to oppose it
      5. PHI 2010: General enough so that the professor can still teach it with flexibility
3. Visit from Andy Hahn (in advising): postponed until April
4. Monique / Effectiveness Coordinator re: Assessment
   1. We’re considering tweaking the SLO having to do with “identifying the value of humanities as a specialized field of study.” The proposed changes: change “specialized field of study” to “an *integral* area of study” and “that has meaning *in everyday life*” to “that has meaning in contemporary professional settings” …
   2. Then, we’ll find out how to assess it in a way that work for us
5. Other Committee updates were covered in SoAHSS meeting
6. Announcements/Info/Updates:
   1. Commencement - May 3
      1. Deadline to RSVP is Mar 22, 2024
      2. See email from Wendie Thompson dated March 1
      3. We must attend the 10 am ceremony
7. Do we want to develop a Department logo? (Dr. Page asked)
   1. Mike M’s opinion: yes, and we should hire one of our own art/design students to do it (even if we never use the logo for anything significant). Or have a competition to do it. If a student designs it, this will likely look good on their resume and in their portfolio, which will help them (i.e., we should have a logo for student-success reasons even if we don’t need a logo for ourselves)
8. New items for (more) discussion:
   1. 2235 Summer revision for online course on pause per Dr. Jester
      1. No need to go through all the revision/clarification/change to the HUM 2235 class when it will likely change again by Fall 2025
   2. Possible themes for 2020 and still looking for more thoughts on this. Monique’s themes:
      1. Building Capacity—this could cover skills, a launching pad for the students' lives, etc.
      2. Perceptions – how are world views reflected and shaped?
      3. Stories—students' and those of others that are worth telling
      4. Self-discovery--what can we learn about ourselves and collective identities through art?
      5. Self-care—how does art shape our mental health?
9. Search committee update
   1. Two candidates invited for second interview and teaching demo– Mar 22 and April 5
   2. Both are great, and it would be helpful to have the whole department at their teaching demonstrations

Action items:

* Come to candidate teaching demonstrations on the morning of March 22 and April 5
* Monique, Michael, and Anna: find out where you are in the faculty evaluation process and submit whatever forms are due