

History Department Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 9, 2015
3:30-5:00pm

Present: Grider, Beaujot, Shonk, Buffton, Lybeck, Macías-González, Longhurst, Sinclair, Hollenback, Weiskopf, Stovey, Trost, Trimmer, Iguchi, Pai, Chavalas

Absent: Morrison

Minutes:

1. Department Chair John Grider opened the meeting at 3:30
2. Department meeting minutes from May 6, 2015 approved
3. Patricia Stovey elected 2015-2016 secretary. Jennifer Trost volunteered to serve as 2016-2017 secretary
4. **Announcements:**
 - a. Gita Pai is seeking recruits for Phi Alpha Theta (PAT). Deadline for applications is Friday, September 18, 2015.
 - b. Tiffany Trimmer announced that a “Town Hall,” mass advising meeting will take place Monday, November 9, 2015, from 3:30-5:00pm in Hall of Nations. Please let Tiffany know if you would like to participate.
 - i. Goals of Town Hall
 1. Create a cohort of history students
 2. Encourage minors and double majors
 3. Attract students currently in STEM courses
 - ii. Victor Macías-González suggested talking with other departments that currently do mass advising for suggestions.
 - c. HIS 490 capstone presentations will be held Monday, December 14, 2015, from 3:00-6:00pm in Hall of Nations.
 - d. Ken Shonk announced that the Education TPA that was piloted last year is now “live.” Also, high school students are now required to pass a citizenship test in order to graduate. This change may impact the way public school history classes are taught, with more emphasis put on American history.
 - e. Be sure that Becki has your spring teaching schedule
 - f. John Grider passed on word that Meredith Thomsen has asked History to consider ways to coordinate environmental topics into courses. She is seeking more class options for Environmental Studies students.

- g. We will need to enter LX information into CIM. The deadline for entry is June 2016.

5. Funding requests

- a. Heidi Morrison requested \$50 to help bring Ahmad Nassr, a surgeon from Rochester's Mayo Clinic, to speak about his work doing spinal surgery on the Gaza Strip, September 29, 2015, at 7:00pm in the Ward Room, Cartwright. Approved.
- b. Deborah Buffton and Patricia Stovey requested \$100 to bring speaker Margaret Rozga to campus spring 2016. Approved.
- c. John Grider requested money for a panel on Institutional Racism in Education to be held October 15, 2015. \$350 was approved.
- d. Ken Shonk requested \$250 for the October 8-10 Midwest Regional Irish Studies Conference. There will be a 10/9 presentation, "Ireland in Global History," with a reception to follow. Approved

6. Mapping

- a. Tiffany Trimmer spoke about mapping SLOs across all course offerings. She passed out a handout.
 - i. Discussion followed
 - ii. Questions to consider:
 - 1. Can courses test part of an SLO or must they do the SLO in its entirety?
 - 2. Are we speaking to multiple audiences – scholars, students and parents, administrators, academic advisors?
 - 3. Should we gather information from HIS 490 students or some other sample group of students in this process?
 - 4. How can we advance from simply talking about tuning and mapping?

7. Curriculum

- a. John Grider passed out 3 handouts: the current requirements of History majors/Regional Emphasis, and 2 option proposals.
 - i. Discussion followed
 - ii. John would like feedback on the proposal options along with any other ideas that will help "regionalize" the major and make it more straightforward.
 - iii. The goal is to have work finished by April, 2016.
- b. Victor Macías-González suggested that we also think beyond majors, toward the human diversity component and other general education components.