

SFSU English Dept. Meeting
12/11/15 2 p.m. HUM 485

Attending: P. Abeywickrama, J. Arin, J. Boyd, S. Britto, S. Cannon, E. Chan, W. Christmas, M. Fitzgerald, D. Gill, J. Gilligan, L. Gillis, S. Goen-Salter, G. Green, S. Hackenberg, T. Heid, J. Holland, A. Jones, W Kwok, J. Lederer, N. Lindeman, T. Lockhart, A. Love, L. Lyles, , D. Olsher, E. Opalka, J. Paulson, E. Peel, R. Richardson, M Roberge, M. Rusk, M. Santos, M. Schoerke, G. Shahani, C. Shick, S. Star, L. Stec, D. Swanson, L. Wardley, S. Yau

- I. Approval of Agenda – A motion was made from the floor, seconded, and the agenda (on board) was approved by voice vote.
- II. Sugie welcomed everyone and congratulated those present on completing yet another semester.
- III. Announcements, Appreciation:
 - a. Sugie thanked the English staff for persevering since October when Irina Simon (AOC/scheduler) left to take the LCA College scheduling job.
 - b. English has just been authorized to hire Jace Allen on an emergency/temporary basis for our scheduler position; we very much hope he can become a permanent staff member. Jace is a Communication Studies grad student, and is a very welcome addition. We are grateful to the people in the Communication Studies Dept. for putting him in touch with us.
 - c. The university has just hired a new Dean, Dr. Andrew Harris, who will be coming from Keene State College in NH. As co-chair of the Hiring Committee, Sugie announced that everyone on the committee couldn't be happier with this decision, and look forward to welcoming him.
 - i. English Dept. staff and faculty were well represented at all the on-campus candidate interview events—Sugie expressed her appreciation to everyone for their engagement in this important process.
 - d. Wai-Leung Kwok and Loretta Stec will be traveling to the MLA conference in January to interview 15 candidates for our Literature tenure-track position. They will be recommending three or four top candidates for on-campus visits during the spring semester.
 - e. FEBRUARY 15 is the deadline for submitting tenure-track hiring requests for the 2016-2017 academic year. Kory Lawson Ching and Neil Lindeman have been tapped to write a request for a Composition Studies hire—but Sugie also strongly encouraged Coordinators and faculty from all concentrations to put forth justifications for hires.
 - f. Sugie noted that we've been investigating ways to set up a fund for the late Wendell Douglas's (comp lecturer who passed away this summer)

daughter. This will be coordinated with faculty at Contra Costa College (where Wendell also worked). A committee is needed to follow up; Sugie will be tapping individuals from one or more of our newly-formed department committees for this project.

IV. State of the Department

- a. Sugie took a few moments to discuss the unusually challenging nature of this recently-completed semester. She asked all present to put aside differences with others within the College and elsewhere on campus, and to begin the new year with a clean slate. She said that, where possible and appropriate, she has begun to extend olive branches—and she asked that everyone consider doing the same according to what they are able to do.
- b. With the prospect of a new College Dean arriving in summer, it's an opportune time to apply for grants and to re-imagine/re-invigorate existing programs, as well as to implement new strategies and structures of our majors. Sugie encouraged everyone to submit proposals to her in writing.
 - i. Our department will be coordinating efforts to pull our concentrations into compliance with CSU policy: According to the policy, half of a concentration needs to share a core set of classes.
 - ii. There is a continuing discussion around a Center for Digital Humanities & Literacies.
 - iii. Sarita Cannon brought the documentary, "Traces of the Trade" to our department for consideration & discussion.
 - iv. Word for Word theatrical events, in the past, have provided auxiliary classroom discussions.
 - v. The Dickens Project is a new resource for the department.
 - vi. Discussion ensued regarding looking for opportunities to obtain editing and publishing experience/ jobs for students.
 1. Christy Shick reminded those present of the newly-established undergrad "Sutro Review" which can help provide some such opportunities.
 - vii. Amy Love expressed an interest in linking our programs with service learning.
 - viii. Tara Lockhart suggested bringing former English majors in to talk to our students about careers.
 - ix. Gitanjali Shahani noted that we need more information on and assistance with applying for grants.

V. Academic Senate Report

- a. Sara Hackenberg reported on the following:
 - i. Faculty Retreat is January 25, 2016
 - ii. A.S. just met with the architect for the new faculty university club, which will be constructed in the Cesar Chavez building.

1. Faculty University Club Mmmberships need to be purchased up front, before the facility is built.
- iii. A.S. is working to reconfigure the Center for Teaching and Faculty Development. The Academic Senate welcomes ideas for programming.

There being no further business before the faculty, Chair Goen-Salter ended the meeting at 3 p.m. and invited everyone to remain in the English offices for the first-ever holiday party.

NEXT MEETING: Tues, Jan. 26, 2016 at 12 noon (HUM 484)