

Asian Languages and Literature, Department Faculty Meeting

Friday, February 5, 2021, 3:30pm

Location: Zoom, <https://washington.zoom.us/j/96609630427>

Draft minutes compiled by Chris Hamm, 2/5/21

I. Called to Order 3:32 pm

In attendance (via Zoom): Ahmad, Atkins, Bhowmik, Bi, Cao, Carlyle, Cho, Dubrow, Hamm, Handel, Iwata, Jesty, Kim, Lü, Mack, Marino, Matsuda, Nguyen, Nishikawa, A. Ohta, K. Ohta, Pahlajrai, Pauwels, Salomon, Sandjaja, Schnell, Self, Takeda, Turner, Wang, Won, Yu

II. Vote: Minutes approved by consensus (standing item; Mack)

III. Update: Brief Announcements (standing item; Handel)

1. Reminder: Spring registration begins February 12

2. Outlook for Summer Quarter and Autumn Quarter

The (slow) advance of vaccinations and the appearance of new strains of the virus leave plans for instruction uncertain. Spring quarter courses in our department will be remote. The University intends to return to in-person instruction in the fall, but we should all be thinking in terms of contingency plans; the University will make its final decision as late as possible. Summer, in the hands of Summer Quarter administration, is still not decided. When current emergency conditions no longer obtain, a course must be designated DL in order to be taught remotely; once a course has the DL designation, the decision to teach in-person or remotely can be made freely each iteration. Under normal operation, courses without the DL designation must be taught in-person or as hybrid courses (at least one in-person meeting). Can instructors freely choose to teach any course in hybrid form? Zev's understanding is yes, others understand the process differently; Zev will investigate and confirm.

The current TA contract expires at the end of April, and negotiations for a new contract will soon begin. There is the possibility of some form of work action in the Spring, as there was prior to the signing of the current contract three years ago. Remote teaching issues may play a role in the new negotiations.

3. Language Testing Coordinator position: Jameel Ahmad

Thanks to Jameel for agreeing to take on the role of Language Testing Coordinator. He is working with Liz, and will be in touch with language program coordinators and instructors as needed. The dedicated email for language testing is asianlangtest@uw.edu.

4. AL&L faculty teaching loads: working committees

We are out of line with other units in terms of our teaching loads. The Chair has the authority to set loads, but must operate under various constraints. Zev intends to move towards adjustments, and Dean Reed is supportive. The goal is to prepare proposals to present to the

faculty in Spring. If approved by June, new guidelines would not affect teaching loads for AY 21-22, but would shape planning for AY 22-23. Zev is appointing two ad hoc committees to develop proposals: one for tenure line faculty (Wang, Cho, Jesty, Pauwels, Handel) and one for teaching professors (soon to be selected). Expect further discussion in the Spring.

5. Department name changes in Humanities Division

Germanics is changing its name to Germanic Studies. There is a general move in the division away from “languages” or “language and literature” in departmental names. What might this mean for us?

6. W course designation update: non-English writing

There is a committee currently working on rethinking W requirements. There will likely be a change that will allow non-English writing to count towards W. Details forthcoming.

7. College budget and hiring outlook

The college budget is at present robust, with enrollments and tuition dollars up. There is no need to fear A&S positions being cut, and reason to be hopeful about hiring. Although retirements in the last year have been low (8 instead of the typical 30-35/year), the College is preparing to propose hires to the Provost. The draft plan prioritizes two kinds of positions: those that increase diversity equity & inclusion, and those that are important for maintaining programmatic function. Zev feels there is a good chance that we will get a position.

8. New costs for in-person faculty meetings in campus classrooms

We can no longer reserve empty classrooms for department events for free, but must pay for any use of classrooms beyond classes listed on the time schedule. The cost for in-person faculty meetings will run to ~\$500/year. These costs must now be included in plans for colloquia, job talks, etc.

9. Upcoming matters for future faculty meetings (not an exhaustive list)

- i. Update by-laws on College Council and Faculty Senate election procedures
- ii. Revise teaching loads for instructional-line faculty and tenure-line faculty
- iii. Reconsider role of ASIAN-prefixed courses

Note: this agenda item was not discussed at the meeting.

IV. Update: Faculty Senate (standing item; Jesty)

Nothing to report.

V. Update: Southeast Asian professor search (Dubrow)

The search committee has interviewed ten candidates and produced a short list of three finalists. The Dean has approved the list. The committee will now arrange virtual campus visits, which may have to deal with significant time differences; further information forthcoming. Thanks to the committee for their dedication and hard work!

VI. Presentation: Ideas for successful remote teaching (A. Ohta)

As we face at least one more term of remote teaching, Amy presented tips and ideas for maximizing the effectiveness of remote instruction, based in part on her participation in UWB's Teaching Online 101. Slides from Amy's presentation:

<https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1442291/files/73282558?wrap=1>

VII. Discussion: User Authorization Agreement for accessing UW web pages (Handel)

Members of the faculty have raised concerns about a User Authorization Agreement associated with online UW information that many of us may have unwittingly already signed:

<https://uwnetid.washington.edu/agree/>

Dean Reed has given verbal assurances that there is no need for undue concern. Zev is looking into the issue and will report on his findings.

VIII. Discussion: College Council voting (Handel)

There will be an election in the Spring. Zev will send further information by email in the hope that members of the department might make an informed and coordinated choice.

IX. Presentation: Activity-Based Budgeting at the College/Department level (Handel); see appendix

This item will be discussed at our next meeting.

X. Exercise: Test of voting system using Google forms (Handel)

The department is conducting a test of voting via Google Form; faculty are asked to fill out and return the ballot they will have received from Youngie.

XI. Adjournment: 5:00 pm

Appendix

The ABB (Activity-Based Budgeting) method allocates a portion of the UW's overall budget to the Colleges and Schools according to a formula whose inputs are Student Credit Hours (SCH) and majors. This determines the operating budget of the College of Arts & Sciences each year.

ABB is not used to determine what share of the College's budget is received by each department within the College. These decisions are made by the deans.

While the formulas and details are complicated, the implications are fairly straightforward: the more students who take our classes and the more majors who graduate from our programs, the more money the College receives.

The university makes high-level ABB data publicly available. If you want to get into the weeds, see the ABB allocation table for the 2021 fiscal year here:

<https://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/uw-s3-cdn/wp-content/uploads/sites/162/2020/12/08164720/FY-2021-ABB-Allocation-Table-November-Distribution.pdf>

Two forms relating ABB to expenses in the College will be screen-shared during the faculty meeting.