

JMS Faculty Meeting Minutes

Oct. 3 2014

In Attendance:

- Mark Walters (Chaired meeting in Professor Elliott's absence)
- David Snyder
- Janet Keeler
- Casey Peterson
- Casey Frechette
- Paul Wang
- Tony Silvia
- Salem Solomon
- Monica Ancu

Absent:

- Deni Elliott (Travelling)

New Syllabus Template System

CF proposes adoption of new syllabus template system. There's a consensus to move forward on the idea. We will begin using it spring 2015.

Consolidation of Grad Programs

MW: JMS has shrunk, DJD has grown; Deni and I have talked about consolidation under one program director, and we've talked to Paul about filling that role.

PW: No major changes to program, but a shift in administrative responsibilities.

MW: We've had a lot of outside folks looking to use VideoWorks, and there are opportunities for more. Previously funded by DL fees, but we have more autonomy now. We could potentially make \$25k a year, maybe more going forward. I'd like to shift my efforts toward this.

We need to make sure we manage the studio time and resources well, but faculty use will still have priority.

PW: Just to clarify, Janet will still be the coordinator of the certificate program, given changes in grad program responsibilities.

Search Process

TS: Search committee process is going well. Monica, Paul, Deni, Goliath and I met with Han on Wednesday. We wanted to make sure the administration and faculty are on the same page. And we feel that we have achieved a common understanding. The position will be geared much more toward NNB than theory, but this hire will still teach the theory course, potentially in both masters programs.

We had three candidates, but the third did not have strong references, so we're now down to two. Our candidates are from Bridgewater College and U. of Wisconsin in Madison.

Very different candidates, but both with many language/cultural skills.

The 27th of October will be the week dedicated to campus visits. There will be back-to-back visits Sunday through Thursday. There will be open time for the candidates to meet with faculty outside the search committee.

They'll teach some classes.

At the meeting yesterday, it was stressed that this is more than a teaching position.

Apparently, St. Pete College has an initiative happening somewhere near 22nd St. So location of NNB is something that is also being discussed.

Gen. Ed.

PW: We roll to the new Gen. Ed. system in fall 2015. We're staying with what we have for now and then will plan the transition. Each department needs their own plan.

The courses that concern us are outside requirements before students come into the program.

TS: Curious about the anthropology course? This is anecdotal, but students have said there may be a better option for them.

MA: I've heard the same. Students feel it's disconnected from the major.

MW: The anthropology course began years ago with a collaboration between Bob and Jay Sokolovsky.

I suggest moving forward, flagging. Can someone make a motion?

TS: I make a motion.

MW: Second?

PW: Second.

Group agrees.

Poynter Collaboration

MW: Deni, Randy and I had a good meeting with Tim Franklin and Kelly McBride. We composed a letter laying out some ideas and concerns. We do worry about the amount of risk that we would bear in moving forward with this. We await Poynter's response.

On Nov. 18 from 2 to 3:30 p.m., there's a meeting to talk about creating a class in the fall of 2015 on media trends. So, the idea is to move forward on a smaller scale.

PW: Would this be a grad class or mixed?

MW: Not sure.

TS: I did a class collaboratively in 2007 and it was a grad class. Doesn't have to be that way going forward, but that's how we've done it. One thing I think was very important is that we were able to seek and secure buy-in across the board from both faculties. And that's something I think we really need to reach again.

Murrow Program

CP: Our schedule's a bit weird this year; fellows get in Thursday, Oct. 30. Their first day is the following Friday. So we won't be doing things that night. Home hospitality will happen Sunday, the 2nd. Willi Rudowsky has volunteered space. It's a potluck; bring a side or main dish. RSVP to me.

Consider cancelling classes on Monday and Tuesday – 3rd and 4th – if you have a class in 107. And encourage students to attend the public sessions.

Standing Reports

Internships

TS: Michael Butler, a very fine student of ours, just received the first Stephen Noble paid internship at WUSF public media. It's not only named but funded, so we're very happy about this.

In terms of moving forward, since I'm teaching beginning reporting, I'm at a good contact point. 10 of 14 have expressed interest.

JK: Brian Bailey at the "I Love the Burg" blog would love interns.

MW: Are we getting the word out about the Butler news?

CP: Rosie is writing a piece.

MW: And we can it over to Han's blog.

Undergrad Program

MA: Registration opens Nov. 2. I will email everyone over the next week to come to your classes for advising. If students come to you, talk with them but also encourage them to sit down with an advisor in depth.

PW: Is the schedule available?

MA: Yes.

Grad Program(s)

PW: We keep recruiting. We have three or four applicants. Hoping to get more. Two weeks ago, we had a graduate program coordinators retreat. We discussed programs in general. There is an interest in creating more graduate programs across the board. Deni, Casey P. and I were talking about the possibility of converting food writing/photography certificate into a full-fledged grad program. The trick is to not repeat from Tampa's programs.

This fits into the strategic plan goals of increasing enrollment.

We talked also about 4+1 programs. But there is concern about how many grad credits students really get in these programs. But these conversations are ongoing and we are trying to focus on the flexibility options and the appeal these structures offer to existing undergraduate students.

I also talked to Han and Donna about international programs. I have had some inquiries into non-degree students from China. There are possibilities here, but it depends on our ability to sponsor visiting visas. It's a work in progress but ongoing.

Food Writing & Photography Certificate Program

JK: We have four people in the program. Two in DJD, two only in the certificate program.

The conference is coming up again on April 18, and we're hoping to double attendance. Feedback we got: Not long enough, and we could charge more. We're looking for an existing keynote. And we're also looking at a food writing study abroad program in Italy.

Big challenge is my DIY marketing campaign. I'm passing out fliers at conferences, but not sure that's the best or only way.

MW: I believe there are some plans at the college level to support marketing efforts. One idea is to create a small proposal with budget. I'd suggest we be proactive.

Announcements

MW: Let me highlight the Williams House welcome on Friday, Oct. 31. Judy Genshaft will be there and it's important to have good departmental representation.

MW: Any one feel strongly that we need the Oct. 17 meeting? Unless something compelling comes up, let's strike the idea for now.

CP: If you know of an outstanding grad or upper-level undergraduate student, consider nominating them for the Carnegie- Knight News 21 project.

Deadline for nomination is Nov. 10. Extensive application process. Prestigious. And the University needs to front \$10k to fund it.

DS: There's some student interest in the opening of a new movie, Nightcrawler, in Tampa about someone who decides to become a freelance crime journalist. I'll forward the original email to everyone and then we can reach out to folks. It's Oct. 30 at 7 p.m. Free and at the mall.