

JMS Fall 2015
Faculty Meeting Minutes

Meeting 1: Sept. 11, 2015

In Attendance:

- Mark Walters
- David Snyder
- Bernardo Motta
- Chris Campbell
- Robert Hooker
- Casey Peterson
- Janet Keeler
- Casey Frechette
- Tony Silvia
- Joan Eldridge
- Monica Ancu

Absent:

- Deni Elliott (Research Leave)

MW: Somewhat strange timing to have our first faculty meeting on the anniversary of 9/11. Anyone have thoughts to share?

Group shares reflects on where they were on 9/11.

MW: Welcome to Bernardo!

CF: *Overview of accreditation and self study status and what's coming next. Review of trip to Chicago to attend workshop, with insights from CP. What's next on the timeline; careful look at standards 1 & 2 and discussion around competencies addressed this semester.*

MW: We might use accreditation process to get support for things we want to do, perhaps specifically a change in our name to Digital Journalism and Multimedia.

MA: Some problems with existing list of outside electives. On top of 44 credit hours four journalism, students take 9 in outside electives. Intro to Cultural Anthropology and two more. They must be liberal arts courses. There were some issues. Over the summer, Joan and I looked at the outside electives and other courses currently being offered in the College of Arts and Science. We came up with a list of possibilities. We have about a dozen existing options and 10 new possibilities that we've identified. We've also done some ranking on how well each

might fit. We're looking specifically into courses that met other requirements, including exit requirements.

I recommend Intro to Philosophy, War and Society, Music and Culture, Environmental Issues.

MW: Monica, why don't you put together a one-page recommendation on what electives we add and submit that in a week and then we can go through the various channels.

CP: We have results back from an alumni survey. Please take a look and see what our students are saying. We will have a follow-up survey going out specifically to DJD students soon.

BM: Lots going on with NNB. We're working on diversifying publication outlets. Had a meeting with the editor in chief of Creative Loafing and lots of potential there.

Going to do something with local elections this November.

NNBNews.com is the location of our new website. Edgardo and I worked on that. It's looking good, but we're going to continue populating with new content.

We are going to propose a new location for the office, and the frontrunner for going to the Carter Woodson Museum.

I'm working on preparing a proposal for December.

MW: We're working on the replacement for Paul Wang, and we have a committee set up to do that -- Monica, Bernardo, me and Pegie Stark Adam. We're hoping to have a hiring decision in April and our first meeting in mid-January.

MW: There have been some scheduling issues, and we're moving toward a "student-centered" scheduling model. More classes early, more scheduling on Friday. The dean has requested that we allow their office to establish a template for when courses can be offered, and then we'll work off that template to establish specific class schedules. They aren't micromanaging it, but rather giving us a template that we have to fit against.

MA: In my experience in the undergrad program, the most common complaint is we're scheduling too many courses during the day. There's a desire for more night classes.

DS: I get feedback that students can't take the law class because it's offered during the day. I think it's advisable to have the undergrad law class offered at least once every two years as an evening class.

JK: The photo classes have been at night, and it's not a good time for that.

MW: If we get a schedule that might not work for us, we can give feedback and work to get things set up in a way that will work for everyone.

TS: This has happened in the past, when scheduling was handled in a central way, expect for us, because we've been a department.

TS: We have three students in internships this semester. The fall generally gets light because we pick them up over the summer. I expect spring will be better. I think we had 10 this past spring, for example. There's a natural ebb and flow. We have someone at Academy Prep, and that's a new one for us. We've done very well with the Sarasota Herald. One person this year, and two last year in the summer. Out of state internships are increasing becoming possibilities, too. But we have to look at the enrollment across the spectrum. Recent conversations have me thinking that early internship placements might be better.

MA: Currently, 15 in-major credits are needed to take an internship. We could change the requirement so they qualify after 9 credit hours.

CP: Sounds like a program change to the catalog.

TS: Monica, let's sit down and talk about how to move that forward.

BM: One thing we could try is a practicum that prepares students for internships -- time spend with Crow's Nest, for example.

JK: We've had an ad campaign underway for sometime, and that seems to be having a good impact on interest in the certificate program. We got a grant to run a lecture series this year. Four planned talks, dates for each,

WUSF wants to work with us on a StoryCorp type of thing where we can do recording during the Food Conference.

Study Abroad went well. A great program, and the process is under way to run it next year. We're thinking of going in May this coming year. A few stories have been pitched to the Times travel section.

DS: Rumors of the death of the JMS masters program are greatly exaggerated. We have about 60 overall graduate students. Probably 20 JMS students. We have people who have completed their coursework but not their final projects. So this includes students at all places in their studies. Classes got cancelled in 2013-2014 because they didn't make.

We're having the start-of-semester orientation after this.

The other thing I need to mention is there was a proposal in the spring to modify the curriculum to reflect two tracks. The ARP track, and the thesis track. The proposal was to eliminate the

theory requirement for ARP students altogether and reduce their course load from 36 to 33. Thesis students would take a hybrid theory/research methods course. Based on feedback from the academic program council, though, they haven't seen the proposal yet. We were told that it should have gone there first, before the dean, but we can't find what was signed any way.

In informing Deni and Mark, we've decided to put this curriculum change on hold and take it up after the DJD program is accredited and take it up in our strategic plans, but put off the actual change until after the site visit.

There will likely be a change in the spring to break apart theory and research methods and teach them as separate courses.

MW: Other business?

MA: Dedicated undergraduate advising session.

CF: *Discusses equipment checkout policies and procedures.*

RH: Crow's Nest is looking for reporters and photographers. Staff meets Tuesdays at 5 p.m. Also, the Pegie Peterman Scholarship is back. \$5000 and a paid internship.