Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences
History Department Meeting
September 26, 2017

MINUTES

Absent: C. Gold (excused—reassigned time)
Meeting began at: 1:00 p.m.

Enrollment Update and Scheduling Patterns
Enrollments across the department’s 60 sections had a fill rate of 100% by first census. The faculty reported that the SER cohorts are doing well this semester. The cohort themes this semester are as follows: Baranski and H. Herrera Thomas—Social Justice; X. Herrera and J. Suarez—Crossing Borders. H. Herrera Thomas did state that she has had student drops in her online sections, a pattern noted in other disciplines as well.

Winter and spring 2018 assignments have been finalized. In spring, SER will continue with the following learning community cohorts: History 102 (Baranski) and Sociology 101 (Fujiwara), English 84 (Nagao) and History 114 (Herrera Thomas) and Ethnic Studies 5 (Herrera) and Spanish 52A (Andrade).

Curriculum
The department has completed course review for History 101, 102 and 106 and they are awaiting DCC and CCC approval this semester. Also being developed are honors versions of History 101 and 102. They should be completed and submitted this semester for both DCC and CCC review.

After considerable discussion, the faculty agreed to inactivate History 143 (Twentieth Century World History) and 178 (History of China). The department agreed that the two semester Asian civilization course sequence could be offered instead of the one semester History of China in future semesters.

Program Plan
The dean asked J. Suarez to update the 2017-2018 program plan which consisted of a request for two FT faculty positions. The 2018-2019 plan needs to be added into TracDat by early November.

SLOs/PLOs
Only Ethnic studies 3, #1 SLO needs to be assessed this semester. J. Suarez asked the department’s input on changes to the existing SLOs for Ethnic Studies, i.e., reducing them from three to one comprehensive one similar to the one used in History. History 176 is not currently being offered this semester while History 183 and 184 are offered only at Compton. Thus, they will not be assessed. J. Suarez also stated that the updated timeline was submitted at the start of the semester.

SER
J. Suarez reported that the cohorts are doing well this semester. Next semester’s cohorts are currently being finalized.

Success and Retention
G. Miranda discussed spring 2017 success and retention data for department level, course and instructor level percentages for both campus and online sections. On campus, the department had a
72% success and 86% retention overall with online at 73% and 84% respectfully. Students performed better in History 102, the later historical period, than in HIST 101 (early U.S. history). The reverse was true for online History 101 which had higher success and retention than History 102.

Department Activities
D. Walker stated that he is the lead historian on an exhibit about Gospel Music for the Los Angeles African American museum. The exhibit is scheduled to open in February 2018.

Stanford University Press has agreed to publish J. Baranski’s manuscript on public housing in San Francisco. John is editing the manuscript which is based on his dissertation. H. Herrera Thomas is serving as co-advisor of the International Club and is working to resurrect the History Club. She plans to host a series of career focused workshops.

J. Suarez is organizing a series of presentations this semester on Student Equity concepts including his own and those of colleagues who have been part of the student equity reenvisioned program. X. Herrera is working on plans for next semester’s “Celebration of Chicano Culture” and was the keynote speaker at D. Walker’s Indie Festival earlier this semester.

A. Verge will be featured in a Discovery Channel presentation on the Zoot Suit Riots and is working on a memoir of his life as a lifeguard in Southern California. New hire O. Teal has curated an archive on the labor party for Cornell University and is trying to revive an article on free speech in New York which predates the UC Berkeley movement of the 1960s. S. Uribe remains active in working on a Mexican American History Baseball project which will focus on the South Bay. An exhibit is in the works.

Adjunct Reemployment Lists/Evaluations
G. Miranda reviewed the new adjunct reemployment list that went into effect this semester. The dean noted that the department has several part-timers who have been here ten semesters and maintained satisfactory evaluations. She also stressed the importance of honest and thorough evaluations of all faculty members but adjuncts in particular.

Part-Time Job Announcement
The department will need volunteers to review files for the part-time job announcement aimed at developing a pool for the reactivated History of the Middle East. The expectation is to offer the class in the near future.

Mentoring Opportunities
H. Herrera Thomas has volunteered to develop some type of mentoring project for new adjunct hires. There is a need to ensure that they understand the importance of assigning writing assignments in history classes along with analysis of primary and secondary sources. The goal is to have consistency among all faculty. Hong has also thought of creating a handbook.

Meeting adjourned at: 1:55 p.m.
cc: D. Maloney
    J. Shankweiler
    History Department Faculty/Division Counselors/Compton Faculty/R. Murray