

**Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences  
History Department Meeting  
April 8, 2014**

**Minutes**

**Present:** M. Brown, F. Baker, H. Herrera Thomas, X Herrera, E. Rader, J. Suarez, A. Verge, D. Walker

**Absent:** C. Gold

**Meeting began at:** 1:05 p.m.

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**Scheduling**

Enrollment has remained steady in the department this semester since first census with the exception of a few sections that include History 101, 102, 141, 163 and 176. All classes are staffed for summer and fall. The dean asked faculty to make certain they submitted their spring 2015 requests to Beverly.

**SLO Assessments**

Three courses are scheduled for assessments this semester: History 140, 143 and 152. J. Suarez has already spoken to the faculty who will be conducting assessments for these courses.

**Local MQ vs State MQs Review**

The department faculty elected to maintain the current local minimum qualifications for both History and Ethnic Studies rather than adopt the state standard. The local MQ for history is "Master's in history OR the equivalent." For Ethnic Studies it is "Master's in the ethnic studies field OR the equivalent OR See Interdisciplinary Studies." The state MQs permit along with the Master's in the discipline a Bachelor's degree and a Master's in related disciplines for both Ethnic Studies and history.

**Information Items**

- Department Success and Retention rates—spring 2013 success and retention rates for the department were distributed to faculty for their review and where appropriate follow-up.
- Degree totals—the dean provided data from a campus report on a five year history of degrees awarded by major within the division. In 2012-13 fifteen students earned associates degrees with History as their major. A discussion ensued with the expectation that the History A.A. Transfer degree will improve those numbers. J. Suarez stressed the importance of promoting the transfer degree. F. Baker pointed out that careers in history for B.A. history majors can lead to careers and cited a recent article on this topic. The department's annual careers in history workshop can also contribute to raising student awareness.
- Curriculum update—the department is ahead of schedule on course review. Currently, the only course that needs to be submitted in fall 2014 is History 178 (History of China). F. Baker has already updated the course outline. In spring 2015 several courses are scheduled for course review: HIST 112, 154, 162, 163, 175, and 176. Consistent with division practice, faculty will receive the course outlines far in advance.

### **Faculty Position Identification Position Request Timeline**

The dean informed the department that the campus process for full-time position requests will begin much earlier in the fall semester. Previously the process extended from October into November but with the earlier start date, the process is expected to be completed by September. This change is important to the history department since M. Brown has stated that next year will be her last year at ECC. By the end of spring 2015, she will have completed forty years of service. G. Miranda will follow-up with M. Brown since official letters are required to validate one's intent to retire. Maria was complemented for her many years of service.

### **Library Advisory Committee**

E. Rader gave a report on the last Library Advisory Committee. She met the new reference and public access librarians and stated that the campus' media collection has been moved to the first floor. The committee discussed developing a catalog of the media collection which would be very beneficial to faculty. Contact the Librarian to order extra books assigned for supplemental reading for student check-out.

### **Department Activities--History and Ethnic Studies**

M. Brown pointed out that this year's Black History Month program in February was outstanding and included a number of student centered programs which will be emphasized increasingly in future program plans.

Two films that were included in Women's history month, Girls Rising and The Triangle Factory Fire, involved History Department participation. F. Baker was responsible for organizing the presentation of the powerful story of young girls from various countries around the world (Girls Rising) and informed her colleagues that the film has been purchased with funds from the last Fulbright Hayes grant and will be housed in the division. S. Dowden organized the presentation on the Triangle Factory fire and C. Gold served on the discussion panel following the film presentation in March.

X. Herrera has organized a "Celebration of Chicano Culture" program that revolves around the Cinco de Mayo time period. Guest presentations on the Spanish colonial casta system (by J. Suarez), the Nahuatl language, stereotypes of Mexicans in literature, and on Chicano rock are scheduled. In addition, a lecture and dance performance on Mexican identity and the arts in the South Bay area along with a performance on Mexican music and dance will be the highlight of the cultural celebration. X. Herrera is to be congratulated for organizing the program. Flyers will be sent out beginning this week announcing the events to the campus community.

The History Club is quite active this semester with a number of events planned. Sunday they will visit the Renaissance Faire in Irwindale. A Jamba Juice fund raiser is planned as well as a visit to the Huntington Gardens.

Arthur Verge informed the department that a scholarship named for a former history department faculty member, Richard Swartzman will be reestablished by the Foundation. The amount in this scholarship is \$5200 and he expects that once the new criteria is established based on need and merit, \$500 can be awarded to students.

**Meeting adjourned at:** 1:55 p.m.

cc: T. Fallo  
F. Arce (electronic copy)  
History/Ethnic Studies Department Faculty  
Compton Center History Faculty, I. Bunting  
Division Counselor: Y. Cooper