



**Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences  
Philosophy Department Meeting  
March 28, 2017**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** R. Firestone, C. Kroll, F. Leon, E. Shadish

**Meeting began at:** 1:00 P.M.

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**Enrollment Trends and Future Scheduling Patterns**

The dean reviewed enrollment trends in all department classes for this spring semester. Of concern were the some of the enrollments in a number of sections of PHIL 3—Ethics and Society. Also, softly enrolled were the elective courses, PHIL 113 (Contemporary Philosophy) and PHIL 115 (Existentialism). Discussion ensued on possible ways to better market these courses. G. Miranda stressed the importance of adding information on flyers that would state that these courses satisfy either the CSU Gen Ed Requirement or IGETC Course Requirements for transfer. C. Kroll noted that the accounting major at CSULB requires students to take PHIL 103.

Also discussed was the scheduling rotation for several of the elective courses. Last fall PHIL 111 (Ancient and Medieval) and PHIL 112 (Modern) were offered but the latter was cancelled due to low enrollment. Next fall 2017 schedule has both offered again.

C. Kroll stated that PHIL 112 has been articulated by UC Berkeley which would mandate that the course be offered successfully. The dean recommended a three semester rotation for PHIL 111 (fall, year one), PHIL 112 (spring, year one), and PHIL 113 (fall, year two). In addition, offering PHIL 115 once yearly and preferably in the spring semester could attract more students to enroll in this class.

An honors section of PHIL 101 (Intro to Philosophy) now replaces PHIL 120 (Ethics, Law and Society) which has been discontinued since it does not meet general education requirements for HTP students wishing to transfer to a UC.

**Curriculum**

Department's curriculum is up to date. Beverly will notify the department when the next course reviews will need to be updated.

**SLOs/PLOs**

The following courses are scheduled to be assessed this semester: PHIL 101--#3, PHIL 106--#3, PHIL 113--#2 and 3, and PHIL 115--#2 and 3. Any adjunct assigned to teach PHIL 101 and 106 can be included in the assessment process this semester.

All of last semester's assessment reports have been submitted.

**Success and Retention Data**

The dean distributed success and retention data for fall 2016 which indicated a wide disparity in success and retention among faculty. Also mentioned was the relative success of winter session online and

campus offerings with both the campus and online sections having generated higher success and retention than regular semester offerings.

G. Miranda also commented on the slight improvement in AD-T degrees for Philosophy in 2016 which totaled six after many years of having only one lone degree awarded.

### **Department Activities**

The department plans to participate in both the Career and Majors Fair (4/21) and College Night (4/26). F. Leon and R. Firestone plan to attend College Night. R. Firestone stated that the Philosophy Club has a strong core of about twenty student members this semester. The club is focusing on discussion groups this semester and is planning a movie night for the near future.

F. Leon has organized a debate on the topic, “Does God Exist” which is scheduled for May 3<sup>rd</sup> in Marsee Auditorium. Participating with Felipe will be Dr. Tomás Bogardus from Pepperdine University.

R. Firestone is working on another article, focusing on Nietzsche while Felipe is proposing a new publication about Theism—For and Against, which will be co-authored. E. Shadish stated that she plans to retire at the end of the semester. The dean complimented her on her years of service to the college and to the department.

### **Promoting the Major**

A discussion ensued on ways to promote the value of a Philosophy major. E. Shadish had previously provided materials on career options which can be utilized in a future marketing campaign.

### **Reemployment List**

The dean explained that adjuncts who meet the ten semester and satisfactory evaluation criteria are eligible to be placed on the adjunct reemployment list which will become effective in fall 2017.

**Meeting adjourned at:** 1:50 p.m.

cc: D. Maloney  
J. Shankweiler (electronic copy)  
CEC: R. Murray  
Philosophy Department Faculty/CEC Faculty  
Division Counselors: C. Kroll, B. Mims, R. Miranda