

**Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences
Philosophy Department Meeting
March 4, 2014**

MINUTES

Present: R. Firestone, F. Leon, E. Shadish

Meeting began at: 3:30 p.m.

Spring Enrollment/Fall Schedule

Overall the enrollments for spring have been strong but R. Firestone raised concerns about why limited sections of Phil 5 are offered. Enrollment trends indicate that students prefer to take English 1C or Psychology 3. A discussion ensued about distinctions in how the other two disciplines approach teaching critical thinking. Currently, only two sections of PHIL 5 are offered on campus each semester. No online version is scheduled.

E. Shadish stated that she would be interested in teaching two sections of Logic (PHIL 8) next spring 2015.

Curriculum

R. Firestone has revised PHIL 11(Modern and Contemporary) in large part to address issues with CI-D approval. He has developed a proposal for a Modern Philosophy course (PHIL 112) and for a course on Contemporary Philosophy (PHIL 113). The two courses are under review for submission to the CCC later this semester. Further discussion ensued regarding the CI-D review process. In addition, PHIL 2 (Introduction to Philosophy) will have to be updated to reflect the CI-D concerns in spite of the fact that the faculty believes they have included all the essential core content required in their existing outline. R. Firestone requested a follow-up meeting with L. Suekawa. In addition, the issue of updating PHIL 8 (Logic) to meet the CI-D Symbolic Logic criteria was discussed with the department in agreement that the course should be Symbolic Logic. The course is the only course update that has not been completed.

Courses due for updates by spring 2015 include PHIL 3, 5 and 23.

SLOs

R. Firestone stated that PHIL 3 is the only course to be assessed this semester. He also suggested that PLO assessments should incorporate part-time faculty to provide a fuller picture.

Degrees Report

In 2012-13 only one A.A. degree in Philosophy was awarded at ECC. Faculty stated that there are several majors but indicated that students preferred transferring with the degree. Perhaps approval of the Philosophy A.A.-T will increase those numbers in the future.

Local MQs

The department agreed that they prefer the local ECC minimum qualifications for their discipline than the state standard. The local MQ specifies a "Master's in Philosophy OR the equivalent" while the state standard lists the M.A. in philosophy OR a bachelor's degree in philosophy AND an M.A. in humanities or religious studies or the equivalent.

Department Activities

The Philosophy club has around 20 active members who are a core group but R. Firestone indicated that it would be good to have more women participate. F. Leon reported that he had attended a conference on the Philosophy of Religion the previous weekend in Charleston, South Carolina. He has a book contract as co-editor as well as a chapter on epistemology for a publication in philosophy of religion.

R. Firestone has updated his critical thinking text to include a chapter on language and he is also working on two articles for future submission.

E. Shadish stated she completed and submitted her sabbatical report on her experience in Malawi and is planning a presentation for later this semester.

S.I.

The department had been approved to participate this semester in supplemental instruction but unfortunately no coach for PHIL 2 was approved in spite of recommendations to Philosophy students to apply for the assignment. G. Miranda will check with L. Barrueta if S.I. will be available next fall semester.

Supplies/Instructional Needs/Media Requests

The department was reminded to submit media and supply requests to Maria by Friday, March 7th.

Meeting adjourned at: 4:25 p.m.

cc: T. Fallo
F. Arce (electronic copy)
Philosophy Department Faculty/Compton Center Philosophy Faculty
CEC: I. Bunting
Division Counselor: Y. Cooper