

**Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences  
Philosophy Department Meeting  
April 13, 2015**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** R. Garcia, R. Firestone, F. Leon, M. Llaguno, E. Shadish

**Meeting began at:** 1:00 p.m.

---

**Enrollment Update/Future Scheduling Assignments**

The department discussed the soft enrollment trend in Ethics classes as well as in evening offerings. With the exception of Introduction to Philosophy, other evening offerings were cancelled. Ethics has been cancelled three semesters in a row. Future rotation of Asian Philosophy and Existentialism was discussed as well.

For the fall semester, the department's schedule includes mainly morning and early afternoon sections, three online offerings and one evening class.

R. Firestone inquired about the department's FT/PT ratio since one of their recommendations is to hire an additional full-time instructor. (Note: for fall 2015 the ratio at this time is: FT=56%, PT=44%)

**Curriculum and CI-D Update**

The department has completed all course review updates and resubmitted Phil 105 to the CCC because of CI-D issues. All department courses have been renumbered to three numerals. The three-digit renumbering will be in place for the fall 2015 semester.

**SLO Assessments**

R. Firestone reported that the department is conducting assessments as follows: PHIL 2 (#1), PHIL 3 (#2), PHIL 8 (#1), PHIL 11 (#1) and PHIL 12 (#1). One assessment remains outstanding from fall 2014, the only one not submitted in the division.

**Program Review**

F. Leon has received data from Institutional Research and is preparing a survey and will provide colleagues with a draft for their review.

**Plan Recommendations**

The department's recommendations for 2015-16 focused on staffing and increasing course offerings. A discussion on obtaining an S.I. coach for the department ensued.

**Success and Retention Data**

The dean distributed information on summer and fall 2014 success and retention data. The department's overall fall statistics were 65% success and 83% retention. Division totals were 70% success and 85% retention. The data for the fall 2014 semester also broke down student performance by ethnicity. The lowest success rates were for African Americans (50%) followed by Hispanics (60%). The dean encouraged faculty to consider developing projects that might address institutional concerns.

### **Department Activities**

R. Firestone reported that there was a good turnout for last week's guest speaker presentation by author Peter Mathews.

The Philosophy Club is scheduling a movie night this Friday. Members will be viewing the film *Interstellar*.

R. Firestone also addressed the issue of buying books from the donations which J. Thureson had secured as well as contributed to in the last few years. R. Firestone stated he will need someone to take the lead on buying books to be placed in the library for student use.

F. Leon has attended two Philosophy of Religion conferences this semester. He will be preparing a paper from his last conference in Vancouver.

The dean asked that the department submit a list of videos they need to Maria who can purchase them in the next fiscal year.

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

cc: T. Fallo  
F. Arce, J. Shankweiler (electronic copy)  
Philosophy Department Faculty/Compton Center Faculty  
CEC: I. Bunting, R. Murray  
Division Counselors: Y. Cooper, C. Kroll, B. Mims