

**Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences
Philosophy Department Meeting
October 7, 2008**

NOTES

Present: R. Firestone, G. Georges, E. Shadish, J. Thureson
Meeting began at: 1:00 p.m.

Fall Semester 2008 Enrollment Review

The department's enrollment (campus and online) reached 950 by the end of the second week of the semester. On campus fill rates reached 91%, higher than the 80% online fill rate. Only one section was cancelled—Philosophy 5 (Critical Thinking and Discourse). The department reported that the classes were generally still well enrolled.

Curriculum

R. Firestone is working on a new course proposal on Existentialism which will be reviewed by the Division Curriculum Committee (DCC) at its next meeting. B. Knapp is currently inputting suggested changes to F. Schulte's course proposal on the Philosophy of Human Expression which will also be reviewed at the next DCC meeting.

The faculty also discussed the possibility of developing new courses on Feminism, Ethics and the Environment, Ethics and the Internet, Epistemology and the Philosophy of Science. In addition, E. Shadish will work with E. Antoine to write a political philosophy course.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)

The department is in the process of conducting assessments this semester. All course SLOs have been written.

Department Activities

R. Firestone is working on revising his new course proposal on Existentialism. He is also co-building captain along with A. Verge.

J. Thureson in the process of incorporating information on Eastern philosophy and ethics into her Ethics classes. She is also interested in developing a service learning type assignment/component into her classes which would replicate Doctors without Borders.

E. Shadish will be part of a panel presentation on October 17th which will be hosted and held at Northrup Grumman. Her topic is "Autonomous Weapons." She is also working on a new grant proposal aimed at developing a Global Studies program at ECC.

Supply/Equipment Needs

R. Firestone inquired about obtaining a video for his classes on how animals are treated. He was directed to submit a request from the division office.

2008-2009 Plan Builder

G. Miranda stated that she would be distributing copies of last year's plan builder documents at the next Division Council meeting. She wants each department to review and/or revise their goals and objectives and recommendations by mid-December 2008.

Social Science Building Remodel Update

G. Miranda reported that relocation to the Communications building will be delayed until the end of the fall 2009 semester. Nonetheless, she encouraged faculty to continue to clean out their offices since anything left behind after the building is closed down will not be stored.

Meeting adjourned at: 1:45 p.m.

cc: T. Fallo
F. Arce (electronic copy)
Philosophy Department Faculty/Compton Center Faculty
Division Counselors