

History Department Meeting – March 27, 2012

Minutes

Present: Eric Jacobson, Brad Wright, Suzanne Gretz, Mary-Jo Wainwright;

Absent: Lisa Solomon

History Student Award: Discussion and review of the transcripts of all candidates was conducted and Jonathan Angulo was chosen to receive the history award. Brad will present his award. If for some reason Brad cannot make it, Suzanne or Mary-Jo will do it. Mary Jo will forward this info to appropriate persons.

History Catalog Description was reviewed and revised. Mary-Jo will send revisions to Carol Lee.

History Program PLOs: Focus of discussion was on review and revision of the first draft of the History Program Learning Outcomes Report. The course SLOs grid was reviewed and suggestions made to revise some of the course SLOs to be more in line with the majority of the history course SLOs. Revisions were made to the PLOs and the report was completed. Method of assessment of the PLOs was discussed for Fall 2012. A copy of the revised History PLO is being sent to Toni Pfister, SLO coordinator and our division dean, department chair, and administrative assistants.

History Course SLOs: Discussion of history course SLOs being assessed this spring. Data will be gathered at end of semester from all faculty and a meeting will be held early in Fall to discuss the data. Brad will be in charge of writing the U.S. history assessment reports this year so all data should be sent to him no later than the first or second week of the Fall semester. Report will be due 5th week of Fall 2012 semester. Discussion also ensued on problems with some part-time faculty participating. It was determined to wait and see who turns in their data for Spring 2012 and then discuss ways to increase participation. By the end of this cycle, all three SLOs for U.S. history will have been assessed. Full time faculty who teach other history courses by themselves are responsible for assessing and turning in their reports by the deadlines and discussing their outcomes with other faculty. According to the SLO Coordinator, courses with 3 SLOs should have had all 3 SLOS assessed by the end of the third year. The History department should be close to meeting this goal by Fall 2012.

Substantive Change Proposal for History Degree: Brad Wright worked on the change report and turned it in by the deadline. The group thanked Brad for his work on this important document.

CLEP Exams: Discussion regarding whether or not to offer credit for CLEP exams was held. A sample of the CLEP exam was reviewed by the group and determined that it was inadequate in matching the breadth and scope of what is covered in our history courses, especially because there is no written portion of the exam. Faculty rejected accepting the CLEP examination for credit in history courses at IVC. Mary-Jo will inform Carol Lee of the decision.

Honors Program: Do we want to designate any history courses as honors courses? The history faculty had two questions about the program and Mary-Jo passed those questions on to Eric Lehtonen. Those questions included: (1) Will the courses in pilot program always be designated as honors courses, and (2) will only honors students be allowed in the courses? The answer to the second question was no, but Eric didn't really know the answer to the first question because the committee is still working on the details. The history faculty agreed that while the history department supports the Honors program going forward and would like to participate, at this time there are some key points that haven't been figured out and we do not think Hist 225 would work for the needs of the pilot or any of the other 200 level courses because the teaching of these courses has now been limited due to budget cuts and they will only be taught every other year. Hist 225 will not be taught again until Fall 2013. The only 200 level course to be offered Fall 2012 is Hist 223, History of the American West.

The history faculty agreed that any of the following courses could be taught as an honors course: Hist 100, 101, 110, 111, 120, 121. Although they are freshmen level they all include critical thinking and writing requirements. The honors criteria that include extra readings and a research paper/presentation could be incorporated into any of these courses. Also, these courses would be available to students every semester and finally, including these courses would allow all history faculty to teach honors courses in the future if they wish.

The Honors Committee elected to exclude history from the program at this point and start with only 4 classes in Fall 2012. We will follow up the progress of the program for possible inclusion of history courses in the future.

Prerequisites for History Courses: Further research shows that there are still no prerequisites on any history courses, only recommendations. Any future inclusion of prerequisites for any history course would need detailed data analysis that has not been done yet and approval through the appropriate channels, including the state chancellor's office. It is requested that any further effort to include prerequisites for any history courses be a process including the entire history department.

History AA degree vs. AA-T degree: Suzanne indicated that she needed more information from Carol Lee to finish her review and she will follow-up on this. The big difference is that Hist 280, the research paper course would not be included in the AA-T degree. The history faculty developed their degree with student needs as the primary

focus and feel the research class is essential to the success of history transfer students. If the AA-T degree for history does not include this requirement, will the history faculty want to get rid of the history AA degree and replace it with the AA-T degree? Further discussion and research needs to be done on this issue before any decisions can be made.

History Schedule for Fall 2012: Preliminary discussion of Fall 2012 history schedule – discussion on schedule guidelines provided by VP Berry and Dept. Chair Seivertson. Also reviewed history course matrix approved by VP Berry last spring. The three electives to be offered in Fall 2012 are Hist 130, Hist 140 and Hist 223. Discussion was held on changes in schedule necessitated by faculty release time, number of part-time faculty, etc. Eric still needed to make some decisions, and Lisa wasn't at the meeting. Once the number of offerings have been finalized by Instructional council, Suzanne will coordinate getting everybody's choices and send it around to everyone once it is compiled and then forward to the division office.

One more history department meeting should be held before the end of the semester, primarily to finalize the history schedule for Fall 2012.

Please mark your calendars for the **next History Department meeting tentatively set for Tuesday, April 24 from 3:15 to 4:30 p.m.**

Meeting began at 3:15 and adjourned at 5:10 p.m.
Agenda and Minutes prepared by Mary-Jo Wainwright