Loyola University
Department of Languages and Cultures
Meeting Minutes
9/25/14—12:30-1:45 p.m.—Bobet 220

Present: Eileen Doll (Chair), Ditmar Dittrich, Isabel Durocher, Bill Farge, Alice Kornovich, Uriel Quesada, Peter Rogers, Josefa Salmon, Leopoldo Tablante.

1. Announcements
   a. Service Learning for spring: the deadline to input information online is October 24. The minimum number of service hours is 15, 20 is preferred.
   b. There will be a possible increase in medical benefits costs to our part of the premium or to our deductible/co-payments.
   c. Upcoming events:
      1) Daniel Smith will speak on “Gilles Deleuze, Technology & Thought” on October 22 at 6:00 p.m. in MultiMedia 2 in the library. There will also be a reading group that will meet to discuss some essays. Josefa Salmon will send out the schedule.
      2) A Study Abroad Fair takes place Friday noon-2:00. Leo Tablante had some information about a program in Chile in which the government funds teaching assistantships which may work well for our students.
   d. There do not seem to be issues or problems with the sharing of Avia.
   e. Advising training will be scheduled with Rich Wilson for Alice, Peter, Isabel, Josefa, Bill, and Eileen. (This has now been set up for Thursday, Oct 16, 2:00-3:00 pm in the History Conference Room, Bobet 440).

2. The department approved Alice Kornovich’s proposal for FREN A325, La Nouvelle-Orléans. It will be taught in the spring, 2015.

3. Web page revisions and training need to take place. The revisions that we made last year for Nathan do not seem to be up on the page. We are to send updates and revisions to Eileen Doll concerning our own pages and any student information that we have by October 15.

4. Teaching issues were discussed.
   a. Teaching in the language: We should all be teaching as much as possible in the target language from 100 on. We talked about complaints the first week of class that true-beginning students could not handle this. Most students simply need reassurance and perhaps some extra help. Extreme problem learners will need to be handled case by case and should be discussed with Eileen Doll.
   b. Observations for adjuncts were assigned:
      1-Josefa Josefa will observe Clifton Meynard and Khedidja Boudaba.
      2- Uriel will/has observe/d Chad Rice.
      3-Eileen Doll will observe Jason Priddle.
4-Bill will observe Dittmar Dittrich.
5-Peter will observe Claire Lebas.

c. Eileen Doll asked us to think about what can we do to attract new students to our programs, saying that we need radical ideas.

1) We need to consider which languages to teach for more than one year, and it was agreed that we could start experimenting with Italian since there seems to be strong interest.

A recurring problem with sending students to Tulane to continue is the difference in credit hours here and there. Perhaps an online 4th hour could solve the problem.

2) A major in Translation & Interpreting has been suggested.

3) An idea to explore may be a major in International Studies with specialty in a specific region: Middle East, Europe, Asia. This has been done at the U of San Francisco.

Global Studies / European Studies / Asian Studies as a major are other possibilities.

4) We could design courses appropriate for teachers of foreign language, and perhaps offer them during the summer.

d. We need to think about and plan for new hiring in the future. This will not be done for next year, but we need to prepare our justifications to submit next fall or spring. As an example, we might consider seeking a position in French and Italian to increase our chance of success.

e. Spring and summer classes are up on the system, although some are still awaiting approvals. We are collecting class rosters in order to look at our numbers and compare them to the placement testing information. We need to work on 1) scheduling the correct number of classes, 2) pushing students to take the classes right away, and perhaps on 3) considering problems if students who place into our classes through testing have more in-depth knowledge of the language than students who go through our sequences do.

5. Assessment of 1st-year language classes needs some attention since there is nothing currently in place. We need to decide what and how we need to assess. Leo Tablante volunteered to assist Eileen Doll on this, and we will seek help from Brad Petitfils to draw up a plan. For example, can we use Final exams to assess our program? We also apparently have a portfolio plan in our documents that we have never really implemented. Eileen Doll also noted that we should be archiving our capstones.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Minutes taken by Alice Kornovich.