

Foreign Language Meeting February 27, 2018

Attendees: A. Andrade, M. Barrio de Mendoza, E. Berman, D. Factor, A. Moina, D. Shan, C. Sotolongo, N. Yoshida, R. Pescatori (adjunct), S. Ribelles de la Vega (adjunct), S. Sabio (counselor), M. Hernandez (counselor), E. Geraghty (associate dean), D. Breckheimer (Interim dean)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Lockdown/Shelter-in-place drill: Thursday, 3/15, 9:40 to 9:50 a.m. and 7:10 to 7:20 p.m.
- Campus Climate Survey will take place (random instructors/classroom) this semester.
- No Shows/Active Enrollment this week
- Evelyne's retirement 😊😊

SCHEDULING for fall (Debra)

- Debra explained that due to low enrollment, she is scheduling two fewer Spanish 1 sections this fall; in particular, she will not be scheduling two Spanish 1 sections at the same time. She has, however, reserved a room so that if enrollment is strong, she can open more sections.
- There was a discussion about the difficulty students have in taking all classes for Spanish AA-T degree because we often cancel Spanish 5/6. They come up short on units because of this. Ideas include:
 - Scheduling Spanish 21 (2 units) as a first-eight-week class and Spanish 22 (2 units) as a second-eight-week class (as opposed to running them concurrently for the full semester. This would allow degree-seeking students to earn 4 required units.
 - Revisiting the Spanish AA-T to allow more flexibility in courses that can be applied to the degree. Sabra shared SMC's Spanish AA-T degree, which includes a wide range of options outside of the Spanish curriculum. Our faculty might not want to include too many options outside of foreign language but might consider including languages other than Spanish to allow more flexibility for our Spanish degree seeking students.
 - The Spanish faculty want to run Spanish 4 this fall and Spanish 5 in the spring, a pattern they'd like to continue. Silvia noted that many of her current Spanish 3 students have indicated interest in Spanish 4.

SLO UPDATE (Kevin/Rhea)

- We need two new SLO coordinators—stipend
- Faculty leads must submit fall 2017 reports to TracDat by Friday, March 2nd.

PROGRAM REVIEW (A. Andrade)

Argelia shared her recommendations with the faculty and noted that all faculty should agree before finalization. She proposes regular Thursday working meetings for faculty to address all of the foreign language issues.

GRADES for PARTICIPATION (okay-ish) and ATTENDANCE (not okay)

Elise reminded faculty that grading for participation is fine as long as the criteria for earning points is very clear to students. Elise also cautioned against attaching points or grades to attendance or lack of attendance.

SERVICE DOGS (and miniature horses)

Elise asked that any faculty encountering service animals (only dogs and miniature horses are considered legitimate service animals) contact her or Debra for guidelines as these were recently presented by Gary Greco, the director of the Student Resource Center.

SPANISH FUNDS IDEAS (Silvia Ribelles de la Vega)

Silvia has been in contact with the director of the Foundation, Andra Sala, who will provide us with the current balance of the Spanish Foundation Fund. Silvia has ideas for future activities and will present those when we know the balance.