

EP.06.35
(Rev. 4/12/06)

PROPOSAL TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

TITLE OF THE PROPOSAL: Creation of the School of Literatures, Cultures, and Linguistics

SPONSOR: College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Sarah C. Mangelsdorf, Dean, 294 Lincoln Hall;
smangels@uiuc.edu; 3-1350

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences proposes the creation of a School of Literatures, Cultures, and Linguistics comprising the departments of Classics, East Asian Languages and Cultures, French, Germanic Languages and Literatures, Linguistics, Slavic Languages and Literatures, and Spanish, Italian and Portuguese; the Programs in Comparative and World Literature and for the Study of Religion; the Division of English as an International Language; and the Unit for Cinema Studies.

JUSTIFICATION: The units provide original research on literary, cultural and linguistic theories and practices, and instruction in those areas as well as in the many languages covered. The units are the primary source of research and instruction presenting the non-English-speaking world to the campus, and the English language to international students. The formation of the School is a means to promote and facilitate contact between the units involved, and to present their common interests to the higher administration and other parts of campus.

The interdisciplinary connections between the units are already strong, and even at this preliminary stage of School formation, are getting significantly stronger. Faculty in East Asian Languages and Cultures, French, Germanic Languages and Literatures, Religious Studies, English as an International Language, and Spanish, Italian and Portuguese have joint appointments or are teaching cross-listed courses in Linguistics. Faculty in East Asian Languages and Cultures, French, Germanic Languages and Literatures, Slavic, Spanish, Italian and Portuguese, Classics and Cinema Studies have joint appointments or are teaching cross-listed courses in Comparative Literature. Through the new structure we are already pursuing more team-taught and cross-listed courses that encourage interdisciplinary cooperation. With the LAS Teaching Academy we are forming teaching communities concerning basic language instruction and the teaching of languages for specific purposes.

In our research areas, a study group in language policy attracts faculty and grad students from six different departments in the building (and several others outside), and others in medieval studies and early modern studies, centered in the Foreign Languages Building, have similarly brought together scholars from a wide range of disciplines.

Cross-departmental research groups in prosody and intonation, psycholinguistics, and the teaching of heritage languages are actively pursuing external grant applications. In the past six months, the units of the Foreign Languages Building have hosted four major international conferences.

We have just established the institutional structures to encourage more developments along these lines, both in teaching and in research. The first deadline for applications will be in mid-February.

BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS: The formation of the School reshapes the administrative structure of the study of language, literature and culture in LAS to allow these units to

advance their educational and research missions more effectively. No departments are being created or eliminated. No faculty have changed departments.

The creation of the School requires the services of a Director, appointed by the Dean. The Director's duties are listed in the bylaws that accompany this document.

No new staff positions have been created in this reorganization.

The budgetary implications are limited to the salary increments for a Director, and approximately one-third of an administrative assistant to the Director. The major administrative changes have already taken place, with joint managements of all support functions performed by the non-academic staff.

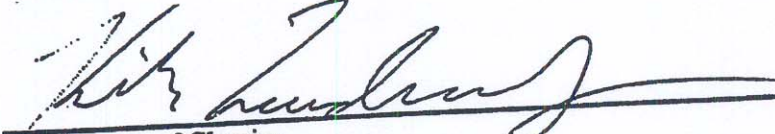
Other functions- faculty hires, teaching assistant budgets, etc.- remain the purview of individual units.

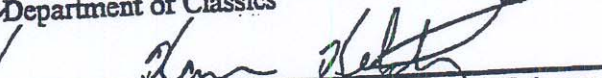
No staff or academic professional personnel have lost their jobs, and none are expected to do so. Some have been transferred within the administrative structure.

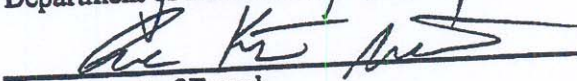
GUIDELINES FOR UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION: Undergraduate curricula remain under the control of the individual units. The encouragement of interdepartmental contacts may lead to more team-taught and cross-listed courses across the units.

PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE: Fall 2006.

CLEARANCES: In light of the outcome of the vote of the faculty (April 21, 2005), taken as individuals, the Departments of Classics, East Asian Languages and Cultures, French, Germanic Languages and Literatures, Linguistics, Slavic Languages and Literatures, and Spanish, Italian and Portuguese; the Programs in Comparative and World Literature and for the Study of Religion; the Division of English as an International Language; and the Unit for Cinema Studies, represented by their executive officers, agree to the formation of the School. The bylaws of the School were approved by the faculty October 31, 2005.


Department of Classics


Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures

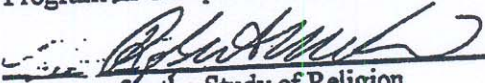

Department of French

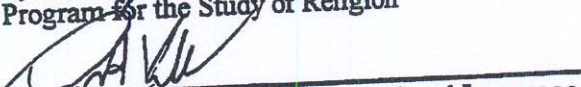
Mara R. Wade
Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures

Hart New
Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures

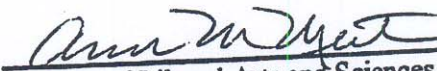
Dave Gusumee
Department of Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese

Mary Beth
Program in Comparative and World Literature


Program for the Study of Religion


Division of English as an International Language

David Desser
Unit for Cinema Studies


College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

E. Beaman
Department of Linguistics

Minutes
Public Hearing
Formation of the School of Literatures, Cultures, and
Linguistics
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Committee on Educational Policy, UIUC Senate

01 May 2006
3:00 PM
Room 196 Lincoln Hall

Abstract

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences proposes the creation of a School of Literatures, Cultures, and Linguistics comprising the Departments of Classics, East Asian Languages and Cultures, French, Germanic Languages and Literatures, Linguistics, Slavic Languages and Literatures, and Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese; the Programs in Comparative and World Literature and for the Study of Religion; the Division of English as an International Language; and the Unit for Cinema Studies. A hearing scheduled by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the UIUC Senate Committee on Educational Policy (Ed Pol) was held on 01 May 2006 at 3:00 PM in Room 196 Lincoln Hall. These are the minutes of the meeting.

The hearing was recorded and a copy of the video is available at
<http://atlas-real.atlas.uiuc.edu:8080/ramgen/las/las-v-2006-7/2006.05.01.public-hearing.smil>.

1 Minutes

Professor Abbas Aminmansour, chair of the Committee on Educational Policy, called the hearing to order a few minutes after 3:00 PM. He called upon Sarah Mangelsdorf, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, to make opening remarks. These remarks can be viewed on the video and a copy of the slides from the presentation is attached.

After Dean Mangelsdorf concluded, Professor Aminmansour called upon Douglas A. Kibbee, Professor of French and Executive Coordinator of the FLB Units, to speak. Professor Kibbee presented details about the proposed new school. He recounted the history of the proposal. In describing the proposal he reported among other things that there would be 11 units, about 115 FTE faculty, about 200 graduate students, and 17 support staff. A copy of his remarks are attached.

Professor Aminmansour then opened the floor for questions and/or comments from the assembled audience. A short summary of these follow:

Professor Phillip Geil, member of Education Policy Committee, mentioned that several of the departments are small and asked whether a merger of some of these smaller departments had been considered, especially in view of the management overhead needed for a department. Professor Kibbee responded that smaller departments don't have associate heads, so the overhead is not large, and that there are disciplinary reasons not to merge these departments. He went on to say, however, that one merger, the combination of

the Division of English as an International Language and the Department of Linguistics, is under consideration.

Mr. Kenneth Watkin, ALS member of Ed Pol, asked about the process. It was mentioned that full discussions with the faculty and students has taken place. Students will not be directly affected by the formation of the School as they will remain in their respective departments and these are not being altered. There is no change in the educational programs. It is expected that the formation of the School will result in more fellowships for students.

Kibbee went on to say that Votes were held in 2005 and a faculty meeting created and approved bylaws. (This last was a response to a question by Geil.)

Miranda Beaven Remnek from Slavic and East European Library asked what the definition of *cultures* was in the context. Professor Kibbee responded that more connections to cultural areas like Anthropology and Sociology are being developed. *Cultures* is being used in order to include Religious Studies and Cinema Studies. Moreover the language departments do have faculty members who specialize in culture. Dean Mangelsdorf added that LAS language departments teach culture and not just language skills.

Professor Mara Wade, Head of Germanic Languages and Literatures, asked how the formation of the school fits within the strategic plan. Dean Mangelsdorf responded that the school's strategic plan is to be used only in the college. However the formation and its plan was highlighted in the college strategic plan.

There being no further questions, Professor Aminmansour described the process that will be followed. The Education Policy Committee will begin in depth consideration after receiving the report of the hearing. Following that the committee will send its recommendation to the UIUC Senate. Assuming a favorable outcome at each stage, the recommendation then would be sent to the University Senates Conference, the UI Board of Trustees, and finally the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

In closing remarks, Dean Mangelsdorf mentioned that the creation of the school will have a huge impact on education in foreign languages, teacher education, and research.

Professor Chet Zych, member of Ed Pol, asked if the formation would have any impact on foreign language teacher education, specifically will any resources be directed toward preparation for foreign language teaching for public schools. Dean Mangelsdorf responded that the LAS Executive Committee just reviewed a proposal for secondary education in Mandarin and Japanese. Professor Kibbee added that they are developing programs in Arabic and Hindi. Expansion of existing languages is not planned, but they plan on supporting more language preparation.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert M. Fossum
Professor of Mathematics
05 May 2006