

HGSA Notes: 10/12/11

Paolo Guttadauro, HGSA Faculty Rep & Chair

- Faculty meeting this past Monday, bulk of things discussed, dean of the College of Liberal Arts wanted new hire proposals, either a Colonialist or a World Historian.
 - Argument for a colonialist hire: not having a colonialist is a huge chronological gap within the American program and reflects poorly, can't get students here who want to do the colonial era.
 - Argument for a world hire: Extensive amount of work for Dr. Tishkin.
 - Decided to submit proposal for both, but a clear number 1 will be the colonial, number 2 will be world historian with the rationale that the department will build on strengths, not reinforce weaknesses.
 - It's important to consider that the department might not get anything.
 - The possibility of hiring a Europeanist wasn't even brought up.
- College of Lib Arts and Sciences merger going through next summer, faculty from both colleges consult, debate how to preserve the strengths of both (CLAS-College of Letters and Sciences).
 - Faculty members from Anthropology and Biology are going department to department to field concerns, have an open forum next Wednesday.
 - No word how this will affect the department, might not find out next summer.
 - Additional university wide cuts might hit next month, anywhere from \$9 to \$29 million more cuts, additional \$20 million next fall.
 - They have eviscerated staff, Floyd will not raise tuition on undergrads. He has also stated that faculty wages and benefits will not be cut anymore.
 - No cause for the department to be concerned, still something to follow closely.
 - Floyd said, six years ago, for every undergrad, a third of funding came from students, 2/3 from the state, now its reversed, 2/3 to undergrads, 1/3 from the state.

Phil, Graduate Studies Representative

- Proposed elimination of the terminal MA program. This will streamline the program, reduce the number of general fields.
 - Some debate over the exact course this will take.
 - Right now, if you're accepted into the program with a bachelor's, you go straight to the MA.
 - They're going to stop accepting people for MA programs, this is what it means.
 - Reasons: Streamlining, admittances of students, number of slots available to incoming students.
 - Dr. Boag and Dr. McCoy put backing behind the general idea, if we're going to do that, there needs to be a tremendous amount of focus on the general field. Won't kick in for at least two or three years and won't hurt the value of the degree.

Grant Fruhwirth & Tyler Schroeder, GSPA Representatives

- Wiley Research Expo, February 3.
- All grad students are encouraged to join CougSync to learn of deals and upcoming events.

- Casino Night is continuing development and looks to occur next semester.

Alex Gannon, Colloquium Representative:

- Many spots have filed up over the last few weeks and next Spring is looking increasingly promising.

Amir Selmanovic, Ph.D. Representative:

- Nothing to report.

Paul Goodfellow, M.A. Representative:

- Nothing to report.

General Discussion

- Idea put forth to create bureaucratic guide to graduate studies deadlines and other required materials.