November 30th Agenda  
Humanities Department  

Present: Andrew Doan, Norm Graffam, Sarah Hadmack, Tom Holowach, Mark Hamasaki, Liko Hoe, Ryan Koo, Malia Lau Kong, Nick Logue, Ron Loo, Rensen Madarang, Toni Martin, Rob Molyneux, Kalawaia Moore, Bryce Myers, Paul Nash (Chair), Janice Nuckols, Christina Weisner  

Absent: SoJin Kimura (excused)  

Meeting began at 12:15pm  

Items Discussed:  

1. Minutes from October’s meeting were approved as circulated unanimously (Kalawaia 1st, Mark 2nd).  

2. Paul proposed that we make changes to minutes through email and also approve minutes through email, and the department was unanimous in their agreement. Henceforth, the Humanities Department will use email to revise and approve minutes.  

3. Paul brought up the cancellation of classes in Spring 2013 based on what was discussed at the VCAA meeting. He said that due to the early semester start date, the VCAA has set December 3 as the first deciding date for class cancellation and Dec. 10 the next cancellation date. He mentioned that Brian said the current fill rate is 29% which is below last year. The department expressed much concern regarding these cancellation dates. It was also noted that it doesn’t make sense to cancel a class right after the “purge” of students for non-payment which happens on December 7. Rob brought up that for some students, they are unable to register until very late, and that the student population taking art classes tends to register late. Paul proposed that cancellation of classes take place as late as possible, perhaps January 1, 2, or 3. **The department made a motion to make the cancellation of classes happen the week before the start of classes (1st Nick; 2nd Ron). This motion passed unanimously.**  

4. Paul announced that the Fall 2013 schedule will be discussed at the next department meeting in January.  

5. Kalawaia proposed that future department meetings start at 9am rather than 1pm on the last Friday of the month. Ryan 2nd the proposal and it passed unanimously. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 25, 2013 at 9am, location TBA.
6. Paul said that he needs to get the Summer 2013 classes being offered by the department before December 10 so that he can program it into the system.

7. Paul mentioned that per the last VCAA meeting, Richard is strongly advising faculty to NOT override student w/o consulting with DC and then the Dean for making a strong case for why this student should be overridden into the class since WCC has implemented the Wait List system in order to deal with this in a systematic way. There was discussion amongst the department regarding this policy as being tedious, and adding an additional layer of bureaucracy that need not be there. It was also mentioned that more information regarding how the Wait List works is needed. For example, clarification is needed on how students on the Wait List find out if there is now an empty seat in the class.

8. Paul brought up the Hawaii Graduation Initiative which is coming out of UHM. The data spearheading this initiative is startling: WCC only has 3% of students who start in developmental education classes and finish with a degree; only 9% of total students get a degree or transfer out; 16.6% of WCC students transfer to another college. This initiative is being done in order to get students to stay in college.

9. Nick brought up the 5-year plan for Theater which includes creating a curriculum that supports what Paliku does, getting more students enrolled in Theater classes, and offering some kind of certification program. He also wants Palanakila 224 converted into a dedicated rehearsal venue. Janice asked whether this is possible. Andrew and Tom both mentioned that the problem in scheduling Palanakila 224 is that the school has taken away fiscal and scheduling control of the room from the Theater department, and that Palanakila 224 is part of what the Theatre does and should thus be part scheduled according to Theater wishes. Tom mentioned that the Drama dance studio in Palanakila 224 was suppose to be the studio in case the theatre didn’t get built. Janice proposed that we support Nick’s plan, Sarah 2nd it. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Sarah voiced concern with people renting out the theater facilities in Palanakila and making lots of noise for the evening courses. Andrew said he can emphasis that to the groups there.

11. Paul brought up the Humanities Department five year plan which included hiring more full-time people, and bringing in additional courses. Janice added that the plan also includes that we want to expand the music and theatre programs, and that as people retire, we would NOT cannibalize existing positions. In other words, we would, as a department, refill the positions within the same position. The plan also includes half-time positions in Sculpture, Piano, Screenprinting, an A.A. in Art, an A.A. Theatre, and an A.A. in Hawaiian Studies (fulfilled), and a Certificate in Gallery (Tony).
12. Per the VCAA meeting, Paul mentioned Letty’s problem regarding the APT positions that they have and that the APTs are not under the professor’s supervision; instead, they are under the Dean’s authority, and wants the Dean to delegate the authority to the DC’s for the APT. Paul also mentioned that Jeff has done a statistical analysis of Summer School 2012. Paul also mentioned that in regards to hiring lecturer, they must be from the Lecturer Pool. Paul also brought up that when it comes to lecturers and Leave Without Pay (LWOP), Richard is recommending that since LWOP doesn’t cost the college anything, the lecturer’s pay should not be docked. Paul says that if lecturers plan to miss a day, they should give their students an appropriate assignment. Mark says that they need to let the lecturers know what the policy is.

13. Math Requirements discussion is on the agenda for the next meeting and the financial ramifications of Math 25 requirement. It is an issue of idealism vs. reality. Janice proposes that we raise this issue again; Mark 2nd; and Sarah says we already voted and she feels our students should know basic math skills to help them in our world. The proposal passed 9 in favor and 1 in opposition. Paul says to watch Red Planet to see how you need Alegbra.

14. Paul needs to find out who is going to assess the General Education Outcome of Information Literacy. So far he has THEA 101; REL 207; MUS 106 (possibly). It should be noted that the department is having trouble coming up with 5 courses and it should be emphasized that we signed up BEFORE the rubric came out and our classes do not fit the rubric which would make assessing these outcome very difficult.

15. Committee Membership changes: Starting next semester, Nick will be on the Staff Development committee and Kalawaia is taking over CCAAC representation from Sarah.