Humanities Department Meeting
Friday, Dec. 13, 2013
Palanakila 117/ 9:00-10:30am

Present: Paul Nash, Ka'ala Carmack, Norm Graffam, Mark Hamasaki, Malia Lau Kong, Toni Martin, Kalawa'a Moore, Bryce Meyers, Ryan Koo, Sarah Hadmack, Rob Molyneux, Ron Loo, Don Froning

Paul called the meeting to order at 9:06am.

1. Paul asked to approve the November minutes, and whether there were any need for corrections or changes. Toni moved to approve the minutes, Malia seconded, and then it was unanimously approved by all in attendance.

2. Nick was absent so we tabled discussion on Theater296 until our first meeting in 2014.

3. Kalawai'a was seeking approval for HWST 295; a special topics/apprenticeship course for students to study under a master. Special Topics courses are lecture courses that are sometimes co-taught by experts in various specialties, and HWST 295 would be more like a studio course with hands-on involvement between students and master. SLO's and a variable credit option would be tailored for each proposed course in an attempt to bring this course over to the credit side. Sarah questioned the qualifications of the master and whether they require a master's degree to teach. Kalawai'a responded that a master's degree wasn't required, but letters of exception would be needed to prove equivalent credentials. Ka'ala expressed concern over using the term "Master" and who is to confer this status upon an individual, thereby inviting criticisms and suspected nepotism. Kalawai'a stated that this was inevitable since the community continually challenges who and by what authority someone directs the future of various programs and courses. Sarah brought up whether or not the "master" position would be advertised and subjected to the interview process. After much more side discussion, Kalawai'a suggested it would be a good idea to remove the term "master" from the course description. Paul expressed concern over our, and all other college department’s limitations as to how many courses a department may have. Paul was asking Kalawai'a how many more courses does he need for this A. A. Degree, and Kalawai'a replied that there would likely be one more course needed to complete the program.

Mark eventually made a motion to accept this course, and it was seconded by Malia. Sarah had reservations and most agreed that amendments were needed before we could approve the course. Alternatives were offered for the term "master", such as mentor, expert, advanced teacher, kumu, or gatekeeper, and after much dialogue Kalawai'a agreed upon amending the title to "teacher". After no further discussion, a vote commenced with Kalawai'a and Ka'ala choosing to abstain, and the motion being passed.

4. Summer courses need to be sent to Brian Richardson. Rob needs to send in his ART104D course and So Jin wanted to teach a music course. Ka'ala also has a course he would like to teach this summer and was informed he needed to do so ASAP. Brian wants to know if anyone is willing to teach an 8 week summer course rather than 6 weeks.
5. Ka'ala's report on faculty senate focused around "two things".

#1. Developing a policy of allowing senior citizens to audit a college course without paying tuition. There is some stipulation about the senior citizen having to prove state residency and the faculty/senate committee, as well as most humanities faculty are opposed to this policy. Bryce brought up his concerns over a senior citizen's registration status, i.e. can they register early or do they have to wait till the semester begins, as this could affect whether a class is cancelled or not.

#1.5 Ka'ala and Ryan had planned to switch back to Ryan being on Faculty/Senate and Ka'ala going back to the Aesthetics committee, however that would mean Ryan would be on Faculty/Senate and the Curriculum committee which is apparently not a good idea so they will not be switching committees. Sarah requested that we automatically place Fac/Senate and Curriculum Report on the agenda for all future meetings.

#1.75 There's been a lot of discussion about the presidential search, mainly that they're looking for someone who knows a Hawaii.

#2. There will be a Sustainability Summit in March and there is a question on board asking what the Humanities Department doing for sustainability. Ka'ala states that it's very clear that the hard sciences are doing their part for sustainability, but when asked what we are doing, he couldn't answer. So he proposed that perhaps someone would like to present at the summit, that there is a deadline of January 20th.

#3. Ka'ala has agreed to kani ka pila at the party at 12:00 later this afternoon and offered all of us to come and help sing.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15am

Recorded by Norm Graffam

Humanities Chair, Paul Nash