

American Studies Minutes

March 22, 2007

Attending: Catherine Lewis, Arthur Harris, Nina Morgan, Thierry Leger, Eva Thompson, LeeAnn Lands, Melanie Hamson, Ed Chan, Dede Yow, Rich Vengroff, Dan Paracka, Sarah Robbins, Susan Rouse, Akanmu Adebayo (part of meeting)

1. Sarah called the meeting to order.
2. Motion was made to approve minutes from the previous meeting. Motion was seconded and passed.
3. Ed and Chris reported on website development. They presented a sample page from Gender and Women's Studies with bios of faculty. They also had a handout showing the planned architecture of the GWST site. There was some discussion of the handout, including suggestions to consolidate the student and faculty resource sections, to add space for any current job advertisements, to change the heading "Curriculum" to "Programs" and to add a section for photos of AMST activities. There was also discussion of the proposed AMST home page. Please send any additional feedback to Ed by March 28.
4. Catherine reported on the discussions of the personnel committee. Most of the discussion revolves around articulation of T and P guidelines for AMST joint appointments. LeeAnn raised the question and was some discussion at this meeting of whether it was appropriate or necessary to have T and P guidelines as such since currently all AMST joint appointments have primary assignments within established departments, hence those department guidelines prevail. We agreed that while formal T and P guidelines may be premature, we need written expectations/ AMST definitions of service, scholarship, etc for the use of faculty coming up for review and for guiding the program coordinator as he or she gives feedback to faculty and departments. Susan suggested that someone from particular interdisciplinary programs sit on department/college committees in at least an ex-officio capacity so that T and P committee members can ask questions about the program if necessary. Rich stressed the importance of the formal agreement for joint appointments: It needs to be clear, and include the understanding that written review of the candidate's performance within the interdisciplinary area is part of the formal review process and this document is included at each level of review. Right now though department guidelines are the primary

documents governing candidate review. Sarah said that the articulation of expectations/program definitions will help in the upcoming searches. Rich said that it is important that the relevant departments and programs (AMST) are equal in the search process. He again said that formal written feedback from AMST is a necessary part of the T and P process, and that this could include ex officio participation by AMST on relevant t and P committees.

5. Sarah reminded the group that AMST affiliation requires participation of AMST committees, and said that she will remind the group of this again next year.
6. Nina reported on her trip to Morocco and the prospects for collaboration between AMST and the Moroccan university she visited. She gave a power Point presentation and discussed in some detail the programs in place there and how they might relate to what we are doing at KSU. She concluded that there are many opportunities for research and teaching collaborations and exchanges. The president of the Moroccan university will visit KSU June 4 and 5. Adebayo (who joined the group for Nina's presentation) stressed the importance of bringing those from Morocco here, not just our going there. He hopes this will happen soon. Dean Vengroff is interested in sending a group from HSS to Morocco in the early summer. Please contact Dan about setting up specific exchanges and Nina (cc Sarah) about interests in the proposed trip, programs, etc. (Nina will send her Power Point presentation to the AMST faculty since many could not attend today's meeting.)
7. The meeting was adjourned, with apologies to Catherine for not getting to her agenda item.
8. There will be AMST workshops, speaker on April 5 and 6. Reminder to come.

Susan Rouse AMST Secretary