

American Studies  
Minutes, January 25, 2007

Attending: Ed Chan, LeeAnn Lands, Susan Rouse, Dorothy Graham, Chris Smith (visitor), Nina Morgan, Thierry Leger, Jim Elledge, Kay Reeve, David Parker, Eva Thompson, Linda Nieman, Robert DeVillier, Dede Yow, Ernest Silva

1. Meeting called to order by LeeAnn Lands.
2. After introducing the visitors (Chris Smith, a student who will be discussing community building and David Parker, faculty from History and Philosophy), LeeAnn announced that Jim Elledge would delay his scheduled presentation because his laptop was stolen from his office.
3. LeeAnn went over the list of announcements (see agenda), including that there will be an open house on March 15 for the Interdisciplinary Suite on the second floor of the new Social Sciences building.
4. There was some discussion of whether Michael Elliott should give his workshop in late spring or early fall.
5. Ed Chan and Kay Reeve reported their progress on the mission statement. (See draft attached to agenda.) They used the mission statement from the Master's degree proposal as a starting point. There was discussion of the draft statement. Please email them feedback by midnight tonight.
6. It is still possible to give feedback to LeeAnn and Thierry on the AMST information for the college brochure.
7. Nina Morgan reported on the pamphlet/flyer for AMST. It is to be a simple, 3-fold flyer intended to advertise the minor. It includes a branding statement. There was a consensus of those at the meeting that one of the faculty photos should be replaced by a group photo of AMST faculty. Please get comments to Nina by midnight tonight.
8. Nina also reported that she is working with Joe Remillard in Visual Arts to have students design a logo for the program.
9. Dot Graham said that the report on faculty development will come around February 15. She urged everyone to attend Ed's presentation on film images of America from Hollywood and Bollywood. He will present at the Feb. 22 meeting.
10. Please let Kay and Ed know what to put on the AMST website.
11. LeeAnn presented the draft of the curriculum for a major. The committee decided to go with broadly titled courses so as to avoid the proliferation of new courses. Each course will have objectives that can be incorporated into other courses, thus allowing current courses to be cross-listed as necessary with AMST courses. (See draft included with agenda.) Thierry commented that he thought there should be more than one 4000-level course. There was some discussion of "related studies" and other details of the draft.
12. Nina reported on the possibility of partnering with a university in Morocco (Casablanca) to offer American Studies courses and

collaborative research opportunities. She will be going to Morocco next month and will report back to the group.

13. Chris Smith, who is working on housing research with LeeAnn, talked about community building opportunities for AMST faculty and students. He talked about the pros and cons of list serves and other electronic based formats for community building. He talked, too, about how faculty could bring about collaboration between students across individual courses. There was some discussion of possibilities for common projects and how the web could be used to gather and disseminate data. LeeAnn pointed out that here is a room in the interdisciplinary (2015) that could be used by students to meet formally and informally. Nina asked if there could be an AMST student blog. There was also discussion of films and student-faculty, and faculty reading groups.

Susan Rouse  
AMST Secretary