Meeting Minutes

Religion Department
2009/2010

Date & Time | March 24, 2010 | Recorded by: Wendy Czik
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**Faculty Members**
- In Attendance: Kecia Ali, Gina Cogan, David Eckel, Emily Hudson, Steven Katz, Jonathan Klawans, Deeana Klepper, Jennifer Knust, Christopher Lehrich, Marcie Lenk, Diana Label, Thomas Michael, Michael Zank
- Not in Attendance: Paula Fredriksen, Laura Harrington, Ray Hart, Frank Korom, Hillel Levine, Alan Olson, Stephen Prothero, Teena Purohit, Adam Seligman

**Staff Members**
- In Attendance: Karen Nardella, Melissa Merolla, Wendy Czik
- Not in Attendance:

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**Agenda**

I. Approval of Minutes
II. Chair’s Report
   a. Marcie Lenk and Laura Harrington will be back next year as visiting Professors.
   b. David Frankfurter’s tenure has moved to the next level.
   c. Full Professors voted for Paula to be named William Goodwin Aurelio Chair Emerita.
   d. Curriculum Review: Specializations have been meeting in preparation for the May 3rd retreat.
   e. Lauren Hall, Coordinator, Alumni Relations, CAS fundraising; Lauren has been meeting with departments inquire about alumni.
   f. C. Allyn Russell and Elizabeth V. Russell Professorship in Religion: There is currently 1.5 million in the fund, need 2 million for the chair.
   g. 5th floor copier: Ikon is still looking for a finisher; we hope to resolve this soon.
III. DUS report
IV. Posen Foundation grant
V. Commencement Student Remarks
VI. DRTS report
VII. Program in Scripture and the Arts
VIII. Judaic Studies report
IX. Other Business

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**Action Items**

Faculty: Faculty needs to respond by the end of March to the RN Curriculum Review 2009-10 sent out earlier last month.

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**Minutes**

Start: 3:05

I. Approval of Minutes: Michael Zank, Kecia Ali
II. Chair’s report
   a. Marcie Lenk and Laura Harrington will be back next year as visiting Professors.
   b. David Frankfurter’s tenure has moved to the next level.
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h. Departmental Honors: Each department decides on the criteria for Honors using options A or B, or both. Department can collaborate with other departments on courses.
   i. Option A: Current Work for Distinction, honors thesis in major
   ii. Option B: Slate of honors courses, seminars in major

III. DUS report: Michael Zank
   a. Time for mid-semester progress reports
   b. Curriculum review: small groups are meeting in preparation for retreat in May.
   c. Gateway courses: 100 level courses, freshmen make up 10% of these courses, 103/104 30-40% freshmen. Discuss more in the fall.

IV. Posen Foundation grant: Michael Zank
   a. The second Posen sponsored event will be held in the fall.
   b. First new course, Modern Jew, will also be offered in the fall.

V. Commencement Student Remarks: Michael Zank
   a. Send out emails to 5 students (Emily Capilouto, Aviva Gat, Lianna Hamilton, Matthew Tom, Lauren Sereci) asking if they would like to be student speaker and requesting a few sentences on what they would speak about. Faculty to vote on the responses.

VI. DRTS report: Jonathan Klawans
   a. Admissions: 12 funded students admitted, no one has replied back as yet. Two students have visited and a couple are getting visas ready. One or two will be wait listed. The Grad office is behind on sending out rejection letters.
   b. Procedural issue: Policy for financial aid; we currently do not allow new students to serve as TA’s. Sometimes, we can change the policy and offer students with experience TA positions.
   c. Humanities Foundation Awards; Students can self nominate. DRTS nominates Crissy and Regina.

VII. Program in Scripture and the Arts: Thomas Michael
   a. Announcement of two events coming up.
   b. Emily will be on the committee next year.

VIII. Judaic Studies report: Steven Katz
   a. Announcement of lecture event
   b. Visiting Professor coming for next academic year and will teach four courses.

IX. Modern Christianity search in the fall will be a new line.

X. Other Business: No other business to report.

End: 4:27