

**Department of Classics**  
**Faculty Meeting Minutes**  
**25 April 2012**

*Approved by Faculty (date): 11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain*

**agenda**

Present: Christy Albright, Elena Bianchelli, Damaris Corrigan, Keith Dix, Marilyn Evans, Erika Hermanowicz, Jared Klein, John Nicholson, Naomi Norman, Nicholas Rynearson, Sallie Spence

Absent: Jim Anderson, Robert Harris

Excused: Mario Erasmo, Chuck Platter, Ben Wolkow

**Welcome**

N. Norman, Head of the Department of Classics, opened the meeting and greeted everyone.

The meeting followed the attached agenda.

**Departmental Announcements & Information from the Dean**

- Academic Honesty policy—N. Norman distributed folders that include the policy and who to contact if you suspect a student of cheating. Make sure you follow the UGA policy for academic dishonesty to avoid potential problems/litigation.
- Lecturer search update
  - As of this morning, 30 applications – The deadline is May 1, so we should have a nice body of applications.
- Thus far, only one person has volunteered to be on selection committee, so N. Norman will begin assigning people to serve.
- Classics Honors Day
  - Hugh Ruppensburg will be attending. Please invite a guest. It will be a fun event.
  - See list of awards/scholarships; programs and people who will give out awards – Warlick-Mannion (Hermanowicz); Gantz (Bianchelli); CGE (Rynearson); Thompson (Anderson); LaFleur (LaFleur); Best (Norman); Classics Outstanding TA and UGA Outstanding TA (Spence); Classics Prize (Spence & Albright).
  - Re the College Greek Exam – 2/3 of our students scored above the national average on the exam.
  - IDL is seeking instructors. Let N. Norman know ASAP if you are interested.
  - Thanks for the film series and colloquium this semester. Both were successful events and we hope they continue next year.

**Discussion / Action Items**

- Proposed reorganization of undergraduate majors, see documents distributed for the February meeting and the attached document
  - Discussion on this began this year at the February meeting. At that time, Chuck reminded us that we as a faculty approved the reorganization of the majors into two: Classical Culture (essentially unchanged from current CLAS major) and Classical

Languages and Literature (which would mirror the graduate degree by offering three tracks: Greek, Latin, or GreekANDLatin).

- In February, we voted to accept the classical culture major as written with the addition of the classical archaeology track.
- Discussion continued on the Classical Languages and Literature major, especially to changes in the major requirements, namely to require every Greek track student to take at least 2 semesters of Latin and every Latin track student to take at least 2 semesters of Greek.
- In February, Chuck reported back to the faculty the results of the student survey which showed that students generally favored the changes in degree requirements. There was a lot of discussion and the issue was tabled so we could assemble some additional data to help drive the discussion. Kay looked at the transcripts of Latin majors over the last several years to see how many of them had on their own taken Greek courses. That data is presented on the material sent out with this month's agenda.
- Kay's data: 59 graduates; 41 (69.5%) took at least one semester of Greek; and 32 (54.2%) took at least one year of Greek
- N. Norman suggested that the data does not support the idea that requiring Latin students to take Greek will damage our undergraduate program. She opened the floor to discussion.

The primary issue is the change of majors requiring students to take at least one year in the other language (Greek majors would take Latin, Latin would take Greek). N. Norman collected data on what our majors have done in the past, since 2006 (Attachment). Almost 70% of Latin majors took at least one semester of Greek and over 50% took at least one year of Greek. The data doesn't support the idea that we will self-destruct if we make this a requirement. We have already committed to making the majors Classical Languages and Classical Culture and Literature. Today we are voting to see if we accept the revisions to requirements for the tracks under these two majors? E. Bianchelli – the fact that so many Latin majors are taking Greek already – maybe we don't need to impose it?

S. Spence – what was background reasoning to make this change?

K. Dix – the change would strengthen the majors and get higher enrollment in Greek classes.

N. Norman- it would be a way to strengthen the Greek major.

S. Spence – is not sure we should insist all Latin majors take Greek. She is still afraid we will lose majors, especially those who may want to do a second language other than Greek. It may be counterproductive.

J. Klein – if the department defines our majors as Classical Culture and Classical Languages, we don't need to worry about cross-over.

S. Spence – we don't require our Latin graduate students to take Greek.

E. Hermanowicz – thinks J. Klein's point is well-taken, but if we adopt this, she is afraid we're jeopardizing our Latin numbers for Greek numbers, and that we won't introduce outside NEW students into the languages. If we give students enough guidance, they

should know they need both languages if they wish to pursue graduate school.

K. Dix – the proposal for Classical Languages means that everyone needs both languages at varying levels.

N. Norman – doesn't see a problem with wanting to expose majors to both languages.

S. Spence-plenty of people might want to be Latin majors and take no Greek. She worries the requirement restricts our options.

E. Hermanowicz – there is a significant subset of people who want to follow their love of Latin from high school, but go on to med or law school. We may lose people like this.

J. Klein- suggests that we have a Latin major separate from those who took both languages so that the Classical Languages degree is not misleading if a student has only taken Latin. At what level will it matter to administration? – it would be a departmental issue.

N. Norman- understands, but thinks we're losing sight of the fact that we're trying to protect our Greek enrollments and grow that program. 99% of our students start their Greek at UGA not in high school.

J. Klein – worst case scenario – what will the department look like if we lose 30% of our majors? Would it make a difference at the Dean's office?

S. Spence – thinks it would – the changes would attract those interested in Greek and Latin, but not Latin and other languages/subjects or Greek and other languages/subjects. Her fear is that it will close out people we might otherwise attract.

N. Rynearson – how confident are we that more people will take Greek classes with the requirement?

N. Norman – one reason Latin has so many students is that we start out with six or seven intro classes, increasing chances of getting people in upper-level classes. One real issue could be in our ability to offer upper-division Greek classes without making faculty do free overloads to teach those course. By increasing the student pool at lower levels, you will most likely have more students enrolling in upper-level classes.

S. Spence – there is no evidence that students would go on to upper-level Greek after taking the required year.

J. Klein – there are two issues: 1. Getting people into Greek. They might wait until senior year to take the required level, therefore not going into upper-level courses.

N. Rynearson – the attrition rate might be higher if it is a requirement as opposed to an option.

N. Norman – we also have a high attrition rate in Latin.

S. Spence – the numbers will look bigger coming in the lower-level classes, but the requirement may make attrition numbers even more drastic.

J. Nicholson – what is the practice in other institutions?

K. Dix – surveyed some recently and only found one department that requires both languages.

N. Norman – we shouldn't look to other institutions to provide the model; some of them are losing majors. We need to create our own model.

J. Klein – is there any support for going back to Classical Culture, Classical Languages,

and Latin track?

N. Norman –there is a great deal of paperwork, and it won't make sense to make the changes if it's not going to address the reason we came up with the idea to begin with, which is coming up with a plan for the Greek program.

C. Albright – who normally takes elementary Greek?

K. Dix- there are a lot of philosophy and religion students; most of the time they have not had Latin. Their interest in Greek is purely functional. He would contend that we need to get these Greek students to take Latin. They should take both, but are not being recommended to do so. We should encourage them.

N. Rynearson – usually half of elementary Greek students are from religion.

J. Klein – how are other schools keeping their Greek numbers up?

N. Norman – they aren't. We have to be our own solution.

N. Rynearson – we have to try something.

S. Spence – is reorganizing the major not enough?

J. Klein – can we try it and put a term on it, then re-evaluate? We could try for something like two years.

S. Spence - thinks it will change how people at UGA see the department and what kind of inter-disciplinary role we have.

J. Klein – doesn't see the downside of a trial period. If we have to go back, would we lose something?

S. Spence – a trial would have to be at least four years, which is too long.

E. Hermanowicz – it's a long time to turn the ship around. It will affect high school students and teachers. The ramifications if it doesn't work – it will take much more than four years to turn it around.

N. Norman – we need to call the question and vote. It's time to make a decision. Are we ready to vote?

D. Corrigan – has anyone given thought to how the department support of these students taking both languages, in addition to the tutoring lab? It seems that a lot of Latin majors will react with fear and put taking Greek courses off. Is there something we can do to smooth the way for them?

N. Norman- that is an interesting idea to think about.

C. Albright – doesn't think a year is that scary in the big picture.

E. Bianchelli – thinks it's more an issue of practicality. It's a matter of fitting two more courses in a schedule.

J. Klein- will there be room to make amendments if we vote now?

K. Dix: Yes. All it would take is a motion to reconsider at any future point.

N. Rynearson – we need to make sure we keep an eye on numbers.

N. Norman: calling question: a vote of yes means we will approve the changes to tracks as presented. A vote of no means we reject the proposed changes.

**Yes: 6, No: 6, Abstain: 1. Motion fails** (including 2 proxy votes)

- Bylaws revision, see emailed document (Keith)

**Motion to accept changes to by-laws, Art. I, Section 3: Meetings –**

The Graduate Coordinator, or an appointee selected by the Department Head in consultation with the Graduate Coordinator, shall call and preside at a meeting of the Graduate Faculty at least once each semester of the academic year. The Graduate Coordinator shall call additional meetings upon the request of any member of the Graduate Faculty.

**Motion: S. Spence; Second: E. Hermanowicz**

**Yea: 11, Nay: 0, Abstain: 0**

**Motion to accept changes to by-laws, Art. II, Section 4: Coordinator of Elementary Language/Elementary Language GTA Supervisor –**

The Head appoints the Coordinator of Elementary Language/Elementary Language GTA Supervisor, in consultation with the Faculty. The Coordinator of Elementary Language must be a tenured or tenure-track member of the Faculty and must hold the rank of Assistant Professor or above. Before making a recommendation, the Head will solicit an expression of interest from the appropriate Faculty and consult the Faculty concerning the recommendation. The Coordinator of Elementary Language trains and supervises those Graduate Teaching Assistants responsible for teaching elementary language courses ; oversees issues relating to instruction in the elementary language program; supervises tutoring; maintains the Teacher Resource Center, in consultation with the Library Committee; performs such other duties as may be needed to support and advise the Head on the elementary language program; and in consultation with the Graduate Coordinator, recommends graduate students for teaching assignments, observes and evaluates the Graduate Teaching Assistants responsible for teaching elementary languages, and recommends Graduate Teaching Assistants for teaching awards. The term of the Coordinator of Elementary Language is three years; the Head in consultation with the Faculty may renew the term for additional periods of three years. . The Coordinator may be removed for cause either by the Head or by a 2/3 vote of the Faculty. The Head in consultation with the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences will determine compensation for services as Coordinator of Elementary Language.

**Motion K. Dix; Second: J. Klein**

**Yea: 11, Nay: 0, Abstain: 0**

**Motion to accept changes to by-laws, Art. III, Section 1: Standing Committees –**

The Department shall have the following Standing Committees, consisting of at least three members each, to be appointed by and advisory to the Head: 1) a Graduate Advisory Committee, consisting of the entire Graduate Faculty and chaired by the Graduate Coordinator, which shall have the responsibilities indicated in Art. I, Sect. 2; 2) an Instructional Resources, Space and Equipment Committee, which shall deal with

issues of instructional equipment and related resources; 3) a Library Committee, which shall review and make recommendations regarding the holdings and organization of the Alexander Room Library and the Teacher Resource Center, as well as the holdings in the UGA Libraries; 4) an Awards and Scholarships Committee, with the Graduate and Undergraduate Coordinators as members, which shall review criteria and applicants for all departmental awards and scholarships; 5) a Special Events Committee, which shall arrange and schedule a series of outside speakers throughout the academic year; 6) a Classical Culture/Archaeology Curriculum Committee, which addresses the curriculum and scheduling of Classical Culture and Archaeology courses; 7) a Greek Curriculum Committee, which addresses the curriculum and scheduling of Greek language courses; 8) a Latin Curriculum Committee, which addresses the curriculum and scheduling of Latin language courses; and 9) a Development Committee, which addresses fund-raising for the department. All committees shall meet at least once each year. Other Standing Committees may be established by amendment of these Bylaws. Detailed information on these committees appears in Addendum I.

**Motion K. Dix; Second: J. Klein**  
**Yea: 11, Nay: 0, Abstain: 0**

**Meeting adjourned.**

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# Department of Classics

## Faculty Meeting Agenda

25 April 2012

### **Departmental Announcements & Information from the Dean**

- Lecturer search update
- Classics Honors Day

### **Discussion / Action Items**

- Proposed reorganization of undergraduate majors, see documents distributed for the February meeting and the attached document (Naomi)
- Bylaws revision, see emailed document (Keith)

### **Committee Reports**

- Graduate
- Undergraduate
- Rome
- Summer Institute

### **New Business, Announcements from the Floor**

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### **Calendar Reminders**

- Classics Honors Day, 1 May, 3:30, Park 265 with reception afterwards in Park 261
- Graduation, 11 May, 7:00 pm

\* : additional material distributed separately at the meeting