

MINUTES FROM 10/29 ESA MEETING

GENERAL MATTERS:

- EO Nominations due 10/30.
- Movie night was a success though under-attended.
 - Any ideas for social events in the coming months? (Film screenings? Potlucks? etc.) How might we build community with the space available to us?
- **Recruitment:** Good job with Open House on Friday!
- **Conference: Black Lives:** Good job with CFP! Please circulate and submit.
 - Keep encouraging first years to apply for this.
- **Friday Forum:** Concerns about attendance at Friday Forums (among both faculty and students). How might we boost attendance? Should we reimagine what this event looks like? Timing? Outreach?
 - Need to facilitate a culture of attendance among Faculty and First Years.
 - Other kinds of events like movies and writing sessions.
 - Reach out to central line faculty to strongly encourage them to attend.
 - Critical Karaoke & Critical Visualities nights (proposed by Christina)
 - Friday Forum committee---asking them to talk about how they might handle these concerns.
 - Jason and Jojo to meet/discuss the matter moving forward into the Spring.
 - Concerns will be brought up by Co-Chairs, Christina, and Stefano at the Exec meeting on 11/2.

Diversity

- Committee met on Oct. 11.
 - Updates? How are we defining diversity? Is there progress toward a meeting with Kandice Chuh?
 - Meeting with whole committee on October 11.
 - Trying to see statistics on admissions, to see how the numbers are evolving.
 - Diversity ought to be a nexus between other groups; many members are in other committees.
 - Collaboration and mentorship (not to interfere with mentor program).
 - Working on definition via googledoc.
 - Meeting Nov. 2 to talk about meeting with Faculty committee and aligning definitions/objectives with Diversity.
 - Maybe working toward a Diversity statement to help with recruitment/admissions for the English program.

Curriculum

- Sent out an email with a survey to the cohort who just took the exam, and had a meeting with the faculty curriculum committee on Friday (10/26) to talk about the exam results.
 - Meeting on Friday 10.26
 - No mention of why 6 people didn't turn in.
 - "Geographic diversity" to replace "national tradition"
 - Change the requirement from no incompletes to credit minimum (16).
 - Concerned about how cohesive the exams should be. Different opinions among Faculty.

- Meeting again after thanksgiving, between then Faculty will be drafting proposed changes.

Editorial

- They have sent out emails requesting portfolio exams from 2nd and 3rd year students, receiving five exams so far. Planning to send out another reminder before Nov. 1 deadline.
- Where should the exams go? Dropbox? ESA website? Password protected.
 - Genevieve to propose this to editorial and talk to Nancy possibly.

Lounge/Library

- Updates about lounge revitalization?
 - Individual lamps for each workstation.
- English Lounge Poetics proposition. People can post poems they write (poems defined BROADLY). One rule: whatever is written needs to be written in the lounge. (Do this in coordination with Poetics group?)

Other Committees/Matters:

- **Course Assessment:** Recommendation that Course Assessment meet to reconsider the purpose and method of the course evaluation. Some revision of the evaluation and having an online option (like a Google Form) might make it more relevant and useful to students. Questions to answer: How will we be proceeding with this year's course assessment? What is the broader purpose of engaging in a semesterly course assessment?
 - Shoumik reports that Faculty do often consult their evaluations at the close of the semester--Perhaps we need to emphasize this to students to encourage productive feedback?
- **Website:** Profile campaign and updating website--email to be sent out in the coming days by Jacob detailing instructions.