

Annual Assessment Report

Academic Year 2009-2010

Brad Hall continued to serve as Department Head. Felix Tweraser served as Associate Department Head. Karin deJonge-Kannan was promoted to Senior Lecturer. The department was able to hire four new faculty members thanks to a request that was granted by the university-wide department allocation committee. The hires were: Abdulkafi Albirini, Assistant Professor of Arabic; Marcus Brasileiro, Assistant Professor of Portuguese; and Li Guo and Ko-Yin Sung both as Assistant Professors of Chinese. Originally the department was going to only hire one in Chinese, but special arrangements were made with RCDE, the Provost's office, and the Dean to allow for a second hire in this growing area. All of these hires were additions to the program (and one conversion of a lecturer position into a tenure-track position). All of these faculty will begin their service in the Fall of 2010.

This was again a good year in terms of college recognition. Javier Dominguez was selected as both LPSC and HASS Researcher of the Year. Matthew Sanders won Teacher of the Year for HASS and LPSC. Karin deJonge-Kannan was selected as Lecturer of the Year (HASS and LPSC). Cacilda Rego was the Undergraduate Research Mentor of the Year (HASS and LPSC). Suzann Winn won Outstanding Employee Professional division (for both LPSC and HASS).

The discussion regarding the restructuring of the department came to a conclusion and it was decided it was best for the current time and foreseeable future to maintain the current configuration. Department discussions instead centered around two new programs. The already existing Asian Studies program was moved to be housed in the department and the department had extensive discussions about developing a new major to be called Global Communication. The new major would require courses from all three major areas within the department, but will mainly focus on languages and the speech communication courses.

All three of our study abroad programs had very successful programs. The Spanish program had a record number of students, 42, go to Spain. The new courses were approved for Chinese study abroad in preparation for a new study abroad program that is planned for China. Three Speech Communication courses had general education proposals approved: Both 1020 and 2110 are now BHU courses and 4200 is now a DSS course. The debate team won the National Championship for debate in Minnesota this year. This was a great accomplishment.