

Annual Assessment Report

Academic Year 2013-2014

Brad Hall continued to serve as Department Head and Sarah Gordon served as Associate Department Head. The department graduated 95 students this year. The department also accepted a proposal to house the Liberal Arts major. The department now houses eight distinct majors and three additional “teaching” majors that are attached to our language majors. The department was able to hire one new tenure track faculty member in Global Communication to begin in the Fall of 2014. The new Assistant Professor will be Jason Gilmore and he will replace Taira Koybaeva who is retiring. The faculty was also able to hire two new lecturers. One new lecturer, Clair Canfield, will replace Robin Heaton. The other new lecturer, Taira Nieves, was an additional faculty member hired through the cooperative China program that the Intensive English program supports.

Two faculty members Christa Jones in French and Matthew Sanders in Communication Studies, were promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. Two of our faculty members, Karin deJonge-Kannan and Maria Luisa Spicer-Escalante, were able to get a Fulbright grant that allowed ten Iraqi scholars to come and visit USU and participate in ten weeks of training in Second Language Teaching. The department has also been actively supporting the USU Connections program, as seven faculty taught in the program this last fall. A number of the majors in our program reviewed their curricular requirements and made adjustments, including Spanish, French, German, Global Communication and Communication Studies. We were also able to again obtain two more Foreign Language Teaching Assistants (FLTA) through the Fulbright program, one in Portuguese and the other in French.

Our faculty members continue with the tradition of excellence in all areas. The following were given departmental awards and, if noted, college ones as well: Researcher of the Year – Li Guo; Teacher of the Year – Ko-Yin Sung (who also won at the college level); Undergraduate Research Mentor of the Year – Maria Cordero; Faculty Service Award – Harrison Kleiner (who also won at the college level); Undergraduate Adviser of the Year – Erica Holberg; Lecturer of the Year – Ruby Ramirez; Adjunct Teacher of the Year – Anna Alexander.