

Annual Assessment Report
Academic Year 2006-2007

This marked the first year with the new Department Head, Brad Hall. JP Spicer-Escalante served as Associate Department Head. This year also marked the first year for four faculty members in their new academic rank after last year's tenure and promotion process. J.P. Spicer-Escalante, Jen Peeples and Felix Tweraser were all at the level of Associate Professor after having been granted tenure at the end of last academic year. In addition, John Seiter is now a Full Professor after getting promoted the previous year. No tenure track searches were able to be done this year, however, a search for a visiting position in French was completed and Kristi Krumnow will begin in the Fall of 2007. Also, it was decided to extend Brian McInnis's visiting position for one more year to cover for Felix Tweraser who will be on a Sabbatical.

It was determined this year that the French and German study abroad programs would be coordinated through the Study Abroad Office, but the Spanish study abroad program will continue to be run through the department. A memo of understanding which details the relationship between the SOIS program and Study Abroad Office and their various responsibilities was developed and signed by all involved. The Spanish program also decided to change a key prerequisite for six classes, so that the culture classes are not required before taking the literature classes.

The Philosophy section reorganized the requirements for the Philosophy major and also adopted a new second major track which allows a student to have a special concentration in ethics. The Speech Communication section has grown increasingly popular and to help deal with the increasing student demands a pre-major was established. The pre-major will be especially helpful for transfer students and Freshmen who are interested in Speech, but are not yet ready to complete the formal application to be a major.

Finally, at a departmental level the faculty authorized two key documents. First, a merit review form for annual reviews was finalized and, second, the tenure and promotion guidelines document was completed and accepted by the Dean.