

## **Annual Assessment Report**

### Summary of Departmental News for the Academic Year 2018-2019

Brad Hall continued to serve as Department Head and David Richter continued as the Associate Department Head. The department graduated 156 students this year. The Portuguese major was announced in November and graduated its first two graduates this Spring, 2019. In addition, the new Master's program in Communication Studies was approved. The department now houses nine distinct majors and three additional "teaching" majors that are attached to our language majors. The department has 16 separate minors. The department has two separate graduate programs. The department was able to hire one new temporary faculty member, Aarti Arora for the upcoming year in Health Communication. The department was also able to transform Sidi Becar Meyara's Postdoc position into a full-time lecturer position for the coming year. We also had five postdocs this last year, Daniela Raducanu in Spanish, Kristin Andersen and Sidi Becar Meyara in Communication Studies, and Arina Pismenny and Rachel Robison-Greene in Philosophy.

Three faculty members were promoted this year. Christa Jones was promoted to Full Professor. Ekaterina Arshavskaya was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. Clair Canfield was promoted to Senior Lecturer. Erica Holberg was denied tenure. Our faculty members continue with the tradition of excellence in all areas. Over the last year (2018) the faculty members have published six books, twenty-nine journal articles, and twenty-one book chapters. They have made ninety-two conference presentations. In addition, the IDEA teaching evaluations for all of the LPCS benefited faculty over the last year averaged 60.9 on the summary converted score, which is in the IDEA's top 30% nationwide. This takes into account the excellence of the course, the teacher, and how well the course objectives are met. To have our "average score" be in the "higher" category on this national form speaks well for the department as a whole and the learning environment that exists overall.

The following were given departmental awards: Researcher of the Year – Li Guo; Teacher of the Year – Karin deJonge-Kannan; Undergraduate Research Mentor of the Year – Ko-Yin Sung; Faculty Service Award – Ko-Yin Sung; Faculty Advisor of the Year – Mollie Murphy; Lecturer of the Year – Clair Canfield; Adjunct Teacher of the Year – Marina Bernal. Our student research symposium and our student scholarship program continue to go well. We had 84 students give papers or poster presentations as part of the research symposium and typically had groups of around 15-25 students to watch each of the panels. The staff, faculty, and students in the department work together well and produce an excellent learning environment