**Social Science Department Meeting Minutes**

**October 5, 2017**

**N-601A**

**Members Present:** Amanda Almond, Gulgun Bayaz-Ozturk, Stephanie Boyle, Daniel Capruso, Marco Castillo, Peter Catapano, Kyle Cuordileone, Randall Hannum, Tina Kao, Sean MacDonald, Robert MacDougal, Diana Mincyte, Unurjargal Nyambuu, Maria Pagano, Costas Panayotakis, Peter Parides, Laureen Park, Marie Parnes, Eric Rodriguez, Chip Sisco, Geoff Zylstra

**Members Absent**: Frank Derringh, Pa Her

**Members Excused:** Parvaneh Pourshariati

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**I. Call to Order**

1. The Department Chair, Peter Parides, called the meeting to order at 1:04pm.

**II. Approval of September 7, 2017 Minutes** 1. A correction to the minutes, the date of the Peers meeting from November 12, 2017 to November 30 was unanimously approved by the Department. Professor Parides would make the corrections.

 2. The Minutes of the September 7, 2017 were unanimously approved.

**III. Election of Department Delegate to College Council (1 member)** 1. Professor Parides distributed nomination ballots for Department Delegate to College Council. Of those nominated only Professor Tia Kao accepted. Since no other nominees accepted, a motion was made to vote via acclamation. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed. Professor Kao was elected to serve as the Department Delegate to College Council for the next three years.

**IV. Chair’s Announcements** 1. The MCF is available. Everyone should make sure that their schedules for next semester are correct as the MCF is due back to the administration by next week.

2. Applications for promotion and leave are open. The RPA for promotion is due in OSFR by October 20. The application for promotion is due November 10. The RPA for leave is due at OFSR by November 17 and the application is due to Professor Parides by November 29.

3. Minor changes submitted last semester have passed through College Council, however the History minor change is being held for further consideration by the Dean.

4. Money continues to be collected for flowers for Parvaneh. Anyone wishing to contribute should see Professor Parides. A “Get Well” card is located by the mailbox for everyone to sign.

5. Peer Observation Reports are due October 27. Anyone having problems setting an appointment for an observation, should see Professor Parides.

6. The City Tech Open House will be held on November 29. Professor Kao has volunteered to represent our department. Anyone else who is interested can speak to Professor Parides for more details.

7. Professor Parides asked everyone to make sure to update their Contact Information Sheet, particularly those who have changed their email addresses.

8. Professor Parides asked the Department to please forward to him some sort of verification of student’s mid-semester grades. A discussion ensued on ways to address this request.

**V. Discusison and Vote for New Course Proposal – SOC / EDU 2380 Education and Society**

1. Professor Parides opened the floor to discussion of the newly proposed SOC 2380. Professor Parides assured the department that as discussed at the September 7 meeting that SOC2380 would (1) not be crossed-listed in CTTE, (2) would be housed in the Social Science Department, and (3) would be taught by someone in the Social Science Department.

A motion was made and seconded to vote. The course was unanimously approved by the Department.

**VI. Move to Change Presentation Order of Agenda**

1. Professor Parides asked if anyone would object to changing the Agenda to allow Professor Kyle Cuordileone to present before Professors Sean MacDougal and Gulgun Bayaz-Ozturk. There being no objections, the order of presentation was changed.

**VII. Discussion of Potential Implications of the Janus Supreme Court Case**

1. In light of the possibility that the Supreme Court would grant individuals the right to refuse paying agency fees, Professor Cuordileone asked everyone to show their support for the Union by siging a pledge to continue pay their Union dues. She proceeded to pass out pleadge cards.

**VIII. Data Analytics BS Degree Program Update**

1. Professor MacDonald updated the department about the progress of the proposed BS Degree in Data Analytics. She noted that information regarding employment availability and Articulation Agreements have been sent to the administration. Moreover, the Dean has read the proposal and made suggestions for improvement. Professor MacDonald noted that the course should be ready to submit to College Council by fall, 2018.

**IX. First Year Experience Update**

1. Professor Robert MacDougal provided the faculty with information regarding the working of the college’s First Year Experience initiative. Professor MacDougal asked the faculty to provide any advice that they might have to help first-year students at Tech adapt to the rigors of college life and succeed. Written information on how to help students adjust (in the form of a handbook) was made available to interested faculty members.

**X. School of Arts and Sciences Newsletter Update**

 1. Professor Gulgun Bayaz-Ozturk announced to the faculty a call for submissions to the School of Arts and Sciences Newsletter in the form of current publications, conferences attended, and any other information that faculty might find interesting. The deadline for submission of the information is October 29.

**XI. Good and Welfare**

 1. There was no good and welfare.

**XII. Adjournment**

 1. The meeting was adjourned at 2:09pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Pagano