

Commission Mixte Spring Semester Meeting
Monday June 23rd 2014, 18h

Minutes

Present: Deborah Madsen, Linda Hinni (secretary), Emma Depledge, Paloma Lukumbi, Elio Fonseca,
Apologies: Valerie Fehlbaum, Hyun-Mee Ji

1) Changes to the Commission mixte:

New members of the Commission Mixte for next year (2014-15) are: Gioia Cacchioli and Anne-Laure Danville for the BA, and Amy Brown for the corps intermediaire. Our outgoing members are Paloma Lukumbi and Emma Depledge – thank you to both of them from the commission. Paloma will be studying at Smith College in Massachusetts for the next academic year.

2) Staff News

Departure of staff from the department: Emma has been appointed to a maître assistante post at the University of Fribourg, the advertisement for her replacement has been distributed, and there will be a new assistant in Early Modern English literature for the new academic year.

New staff in the department: David Spurr's replacement will be Simon Swift from the University of Leeds.

The assistantship in Modern English literature (working with David Spurr) has been left vacant, as the new professor (Simon Swift) should be able to nominate his own assistant.

In the Writing Lab, Oran McKenzie will stay on for another year, Aleida Demartin is leaving, but Anna Treiman has been appointed as the new monitor.

3) Library Matters

The library is closed until the second week of July.

4) Assessment Matters:

One of the BA representatives asked if it was possible to change the way the BA1 contrôle continu assessments work; specifically, whether the fourth test could not be counted, as the three best grades – including the fourth contrôle – are being counted now. The discussion showed that the members of the commission mixte would rather that all four contrôle continu tests be taken into account when calculating the module grade than allow students not to take the fourth test. DM agreed to pass this proposal to Prof. Erne and, if he agrees, to revise the formula for the BA module grade in the next academic year (2014-15).

The case of students who failed attestation essays corrected by an examiner other than the teacher of the seminar (who had left the department) was discussed. In such cases it is essential that students discuss their situation with the Director at the earliest opportunity.

5) Writing Lab

The possibility of online sign-ups for appointments was raised: DM will ask Clare if this is possible.

6) Teaching Matters:

The Shakespeare trip was a big success, all the students who participated, both the BA students and the MA students were very happy about the trip. It was well organised, and everything went well. Emma mentioned that there is a small refund to the students, as some of the activities ended up being less expensive than anticipated. Linda said thank you to Emma and Valerie on behalf of all the students.

7) AOB

Proposition to have a calendar or monthly bulletin on the English department's website to announce forthcoming events: official events with guest speakers, discussion groups and more unofficial events like the Film Club and other student meetings. Also it was suggested that a monthly digest of forthcoming events and deadlines could be distributed via the student email lists. The PV decisionel of the Commission mixte meetings could be posted on the board next to the library with the list of the courses as well as the commission mixte members. DM will consult with Clare about acting on these proposals.

Meeting ended at 20h15.

Linda Hinni and Deborah Madsen