

Commission Mixte Spring Semester Meeting, Tuesday 5 March 2013, 18h

Present (5): Prof. Deborah MADSEN, Dr. Fiona TOLHURST, Dr. Valerie FEHLBAUM, Linda HINNI, Paloma LUKUMBI,
Excused (1): Bryn SKIBO

1) Future of ADEA

Eva Gozzolino informed the Commission Mixte that she remains as the only committee member of ADEA. There will be a general assembly of the ADEA on Friday, March 8th at 4pm in B007 to decide whether (and how) to integrate ADEA into AEL.

2) Staff news

Dr. Simone Oettli will retire at the end of the spring semester. The post of chargé d'enseignement (50%) has been advertised.

Three assistantships have been advertised: in American Literature, Contemporary Literature, and Medieval Literature.

Dr. Fiona Tolhurst's post will not be renewed when she comes to the end of her mandate this year. The loss of this post is a result of the Faculty's budget reductions.

Dr. Fehlbaum noted the apparent reduction of posts in the *corps intermédiaire* across the Faculty.

3) Study Abroad

Students now returning from study abroad will be granted "équivalence" for the credits they have obtained and will keep the grades obtained at the foreign university rather than a "translated" grade. This brings the English Department into line with practice in the other departments in the Faculty.

The advice of the department concerning when to study abroad is the third year or the spring semester of the second year.

4) Exams

Students need to register online for a class or seminar in order to be able to sign up for the exam or *contrôle continu* later in the semester.

The Commission Mixte discussed the short period of time between the publication of exam results and the deadline for registering for classes.

In response to Linda Hinni's inquiry about the number of students passing the BA4 exam and the BA5 attestation test, the meeting heard that very few students fail after the subsequent "tentatives." The meeting also discussed the structure of these assessments, noting that there are no "trick questions" in these tests, which are designed to show what students have learned (not what they do not know). The meeting noted that there is no single module in the English *plan d'études* that is consistently failed.

5. Department AGM Tuesday 16 April 2013, 19h B112

Meeting ended at 21h00.

Linda Hinni & Deborah Madsen