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Senate Committee on Academic Development
Report to Senate - Meeting of March 24, 2011

Proposal for a New Unit in the Faculty of Arts and Science: *The Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures*

Introduction

The proposal to create a new unit in the Faculty of Arts and Science:

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Analysis and Discussion

The following highlights are noted:

- The proposal to amalgamate the Department of German into a single department factors including the opportunity to maximize and to facilitate development of pedagogical departments;
- The amalgamation plan is based upon maintaining Staff;
- The intent is to retain the integrity of the six two departments (Chinese, German, Italian, ...);
- Academic requirements and programs will be experience should not be disrupted by the an
- To assist with a seamless transition, an integ will be used to promote, inform and recruit n
- Because the implementation date of July 1 f Summer term begins, it is proposed that the implement the name change on its systems a September 1, 2011).

Conclusions/Recommendation

Recommendation:

that Senate approve the proposal for a New Unit in t
The Department of Languages, Literatures, and Culture
date of July 1, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

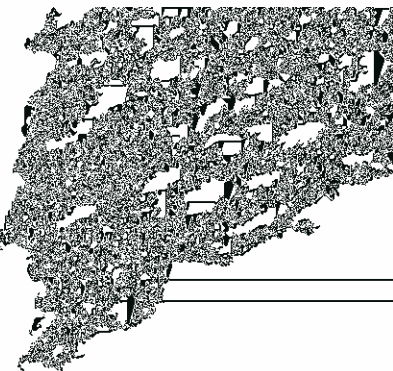


Susan P. C. Cole
Chair, Senate Committee on Academic

Committee Members:

Members

A. Brown, School of Nursing
S. Cole, Deputy Provost (Chair)
J. Emrich, Faculty of Law
P. Fachinger, Department of German
N. Fulford, B.A. (Hons) '12
K. Gossen, J.D. '12
P. Oosthuizen, Academic Colleague
T. Shearer, School of Business
R. Ware, Department of Economics
P. Watkin (Secretary)



FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

Mackintosh-Corry Hall, Room F300
Queen's University
Kingston, Ontario, Canada K7L 3N6
Tel 613 533-2446
Fax 613 533-2067
<http://www.queensu.ca/artsci>

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Committee of Departments approve the proposal to create a new department in the Faculty of Arts and Science called ‘The Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures.’” It was approved with a unanimous vote.

At the Faculty Board meeting on January 14, 2011, another motion was proposed to r

Appendix 1

Report of the Amalgamation Steering Committee

11 March 2010

Departments of German (Chinese, Linguistics, Japanese), Spanish and Italian

The members of the Amalgamation Steering Committee are as follows:

Petra Fachinger, Consuelo Kani, Margaret Maliszewska, Jan Mennell, David Pugh, Charlotte Reinholtz, Donato Santeramo, Jill Scott, Peter Thompson, (Chair) and Laurie Young

The Steering Committee has met four times since the end of January to discuss the three main areas with regards to amalgamation: Governance, Workload, and Curriculum. This report will consider each of these topics separately and will end with a brief overview.

Governance

The question of governance in a newly amalgamated department is of the utmost importance. *Equity in representation* and *trust* between the different disciplines is paramount. Therefore, the steering committee centered much of its time on this important and central element of amalgamation.

The following is an outline of the proposed amalgamated department's administrative body:

Department Head (3 or 5 year term)
Associate Head (3 or 5 year term)

Undergraduate Chair (3 year term)
--Undergraduate Committee: UG Chair, 4 Faculty Members & 2
Continuing Adjuncts (CA members on volunteer basis)

Graduate Coordinator (3 year term)⁴
--Graduate Committee: GC, 2 Faculty Members from German or other
discipline(s) involved in the graduate programme

Language Coordinators (3 year term; for 100 & 200 language courses, TAs and
TFs): Chinese, German, Italian, Japanese and Spanish

International Initiatives Committee

⁴ As Graduate Programmes in both Spanish and German have been suspended, a Graduate Coordinator will be appointed and will serve until all students have completed their studies.

Overview

The discussions held by the Amalgamation Steering Committee have been productive and have shown a nascent spirit of collaboration and understanding between the two departments. This said, discussions concerning amalgamation will be ongoing. Much detailed work needs still to be done to iron out the particulars of amalgamation. In these times of great uncertainty within the university community, we hope that the goodwill shown during these meetings will continue regardless of the outcome of the amalgamation vote. Please note that the vote on amalgamation will take place prior to the end of term.

It must also be noted that *2 full-time administrative staff mem*4(e)100(d)ie8(000)1(1) a(d)70(d)604(e)b48 Tmda(m5

Appendix 2

Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures

January 2011

Calendar Description

Overview

The *Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures* is a multidisciplinary unit that offers students the opportunity to learn languages, develop an understanding of literary and cultural traditions, and pursue studies in the field of *Linguistics*. The Department offers language courses in *Chinese, German, Italian, Japanese* and *Spanish*, and Degree Plans in *German, Italian, Spanish, World Language Studies*, and *Linguistics*. Learning a language prepares students to travel, live, or work internationally and makes them more linguistically competent in Canada's multicultural environment. A degree focusing on

Degree Plans (see below). Basic language courses are popular electives for students with little or no knowledge of these languages, but are also important starting points for the study of literature and culture, not to mention valuable background in *Linguistics* and many other disciplines available at Queen's, such as Global Development Studies, Political Studies, and Music.

The Department offers a wide selection of Degree Plans: **Major** (*German, Spanish*), **Medial** (*German, Italian, Spanish*) and **Minor/General** (*German, Italian Studies, Spanish, and Spanish, Latin American Studies, and World Language Studies* [which can also include *Arabic, French, Greek, Hebrew and Latin*]).

The Major and Medial Degree Plans, and their associated courses, will examine the influence of key social, historical, political and artistic developments, and sharpen their awareness of varied cultural traditions. In many cases, studies can be enhanced through study abroad and exchange opportunities.

In the Minor/ General Plans you will learn to communicate in one or more languages other than English and/ or receive an introduction to their literatures and cultures. The Plans prepare you for an international career, allow you to gain insights into literatures and cultures, and prepare you for a global future.

Linguistics

Linguistics is the scientific study of language, from the sounds of speech to the internal structure and meaning of words, phrases and sentences. Linguists (people who are specialists in Linguistics) investigate specific languages with a view to understanding the nature of language in general.

The Department offers foundation courses in the core areas of Formal Linguistics—

Students who have little or no knowledge of another language and are interested in pursuing a Plan in that language are encouraged to accelerate their language training by taking two courses in either their first or second year. Students wishing to complete a Medial or Major Plan are strongly encouraged to take advantage of study abroad opportunities.

Students who have completed 4U or equivalent in their language of study will normally begin at the intermediate level while students with native or near-native language proficiency should begin at the advanced level. Students with any previous training in their language of study will not be allowed to take beginning language courses.

Special Study Opportunities

Exchange and Study Abroad Opportunities

