

MINUTES

Psychology Department

Friday, November 18, 2022

1:00 pm, H-604

Present: Professors Ahmed, Beals, Ben Hagai, Blackman, Blandón-Gitlin, Garcia, Gerken, Harrison, Lukaszewski, Margolis, Navarick, Nguyen, Okado, Panza, Peissig (Chair), Preston, Roberts, Scher, Segal, Self, Sy, Trevitt, Zettel-Watson

Student Reps: Ferbert, Fernandez, Pelayo-Cobian

On Leave: Professor Alcalá

Absent: Professors Espinoza, Goetz, Marelich, Mearns, Mori,

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Peissig, Chair.

1. Important Dates

Mon-Sun	November 21-27	FALL RECESS – No Classes
Thur-Friday	November 24-25	CAMPUS CLOSED
Friday	December 9	Last Day of instruction
Friday	December 9	Next Faculty Meeting
Sat-Fri	December 10-16	Semester examinations
Saturday	December 17	Winter Session A Begins
Tuesday	January 3	Grades Due
Tuesday	January 3	Winter Session B Begins

2. Announcements

- Dr. Peissig thanked the Social Committee for the work they did on the pre-meeting potluck.
- Dr. Self followed up on an email she sent to faculty regarding protecting their course materials. Most teaching materials, including exams, can be found online, and shared via social media apps like Discord. Students widely share this material with each other. Faculty can appeal to these websites and request that their material be taken down. Some websites, like Chegg, offer rewards for uploading material. They approach students with these incentives to share testing material. Legally only faculty can request their material be taken down, which creates more work for the instructor. Often the material ends up back online, creating a losing battle and even more work for the instructor. The university or college should assign a staff member to monitor the exams and work to take them down for the faculty. One issue is we offer more online classes, which makes the materials easier to distribute online. Many professors are starting to make online classes take their exams in person, which makes it harder for students to cheat. Classroom space can be an issue for online classes taking their exams in person. Some professors have switched from multiple choice exams to short answer, fill in the blank, and short essay

answers. Those that have changed their exams have found that is not as hard to grade or as time consuming as they might have thought, and it makes it harder for students to cheat. One suggestion is to change the standard and grade on effort and the work rather than right or wrong answers. This strategy can be more inclusive. Students learn more from applied rather than memorization, so changing the curriculum to encourage more application of what they learn can be more beneficial for the students.

- Dr. Peissig announced that the college is going to hire a full-time advisor for the department. This advisor will be a part of the staff and be able to help with various advising duties.
- Dr. Ben Hagai thanked everyone who contributed to the recent donation drive. They were able to raise \$1,700 that will be given to the Awards Committee to be distributed to students for travel awards. They plan to run another collection during the Spring donation drive.
- Dr. Beals thanked everyone who contributed to the turkey drive. They will be delivering 600 turkeys to families in need. There will be a Christmas toy drive that she will share details about after Thanksgiving.
- Schedule requests for the 2023-24 academic year are due. If you haven't already, please turn them in as soon as possible.
- Dr. Peissig introduced Dr. Scher as the new MS Coordinator. Dr. Scher shared her excitement for this new role and expressed her desire to incorporate and build off the suggestions shared in the recent PPR.
- Dr. Peissig and Dr. Lukaszewski shared the passing of Dr. John Patton, chair of the Anthropology department.

3. **Minutes** - M/S/P (Zettel-Watson, Trevitt) to approve the Minutes of October 21, 2022, as distributed.

4. **Committees**

Awards Committee – December 3rd is the deadline for students to submit the e-form for the Department Student Travel Award. No letters of support or acceptance letters are due currently. The students must be a current student when attending the conference to receive the financial reimbursement.

5. **Old Business**

Search – At this time there is no plan to conduct a search for a new tenure track professor. However, if the Dean's Office approaches the department next year with permission to conduct a search Dr. Peissig wants the advertisement written and ready to share. A motion was made: Does the department want to search if given the opportunity? (Sy/Trevitt – M/S/Pass). Dr. Peissig asked for suggestions for areas of interest the department should focus on.

Industrial/Organizational Psychology – Students are asking for more classes in this area. Dr. Blackman is currently creating two new advanced I/O classes for next year, and she is interested in creating a track in I/O.

LatinX/Applied Diversity Science – This can be combined with a background in I/O.

MS Program/LatinX Clinical – The department has few professors conducting research in mental health.

Clinical/LatinX Therapy with Mental Health Outcomes – Someone who has experience working as a clinician. MS students have expressed they are not feeling prepared for work in a diverse clinical area. There are a lot of MFT instructors, but they feel they need more help in clinical research in order to publish and get accepted into a PhD program.

Quantitative/Computational Modeling – Students are looking for consultation with analysis, seeking more variety. The department is lacking in expertise in Bayesian statistics. There is a need for more mixed methods.

Bio/Neuro Track – Since the department is moving forward with this track, they could use someone to assist and support a class like PSYC 473, which is going away because there is nobody qualified or interested in teaching it.

Search – After the discussion of candidates Dr. Peissig decided to table the vote. She is asking the faculty to think about which area we are going to search in and who will be on the committee. The Search Committee will write the advertisement so that it is ready to post so we can have an early deadline and more time to interview and debate candidates.

6. **New Business**

Meeting adjourned.