

Minutes: European Studies Executive Committee, 23 February 2012

Present: Dennis Domer, Marc Greenberg, Dennis Karney, Van Kelly, Jana Krentz, Barbara Phipps, Dale Urie, Lorie Vanchena

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. The minutes from November 2, 2011 were approved.

The following updates were discussed:

An initiative has been undertaken in collaboration with LeaMarie Bistak Herron, Assistant Director for Grant Development, CGIS, to help Europeanists interested in pursuing interdisciplinary, collaborative research secure funding. After interested faculty members submit CVs and a list of research interests, Herron will suggest collaborative options and help faculty identify and apply for grants. Grant preparation and submission will be coordinated with the Hall Center. The effort aims to help raise the research profile of the faculty and the European Studies Program.

Peter S. Soppelsa, Assistant Professor in the Department of the History of Science, University of Oklahoma, will speak April 14, 2012 on "Negotiating Urban Nature: Paris's Water Shortages 1880-1914." The EC brainstormed possibilities for targeting publicity: Chris Brown, Environmental Studies; Stacey Swearingen White, Urban Planning; James Mayo, Architecture, Design & Planning; Civil Engineering; Philosophy; Middle Eastern Studies; American Studies. Co-sponsors: CGIS, Department of French & Italian, Department of History, European Studies Program.

Vanchena was invited to participate in a K-12 teacher workshop on UNESCO World Heritage Sites February 25, 2012, co-sponsored by the area study centers. She will speak on Berlin's Museum Island.

European Studies is currently preparing KU's portion of an application that Dr. Manfred Stinnes will submit to the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) for a short-term lectureship at KU in Fall 2012. He will teach 2 courses in Political Science. Germanic Languages & Literatures will provide its apartment in the Max Kade Center and CGIS will provide a monthly honorarium. The EC generated ideas for units that might contribute to the honorarium or host a lecture, discussion, or classroom visits.

European Studies is attempting to organize a roundtable discussion on protest movement in Europe, perhaps in collaboration with the soon-to-open exhibition on protest at the Spencer Museum of Art.

Phipps discussed her plans to submit a grant proposal in summer 2012 to Excellence for Economic Education for a series of teacher workshops on economics and migration. Greenberg is establishing a collaborative agreement with the Silesian University, Opava, Czech Republic, that could lead to student exchanges, a summer program, etc.. This fall, Roman Sukač of the Silesian University will be on campus for a couple of month; he plans to present a talk on "The

Sudety/Sudeten Experience: Memory and Reality.” Domer reported on his visits in January with several museum directors and faculty members in Germany and on the Memorandum of Agreement signed by KU and the Deutsches Museum (Munich) establishing student internships.

Committee members then discussed the need to define and identify affiliated and core faculty from among those on the current list (over 130 colleagues). We can define different levels of involvement, i.e. teaching, research, governance, attending talks, serving on standing committees. One option is to send a simple survey with 3 choices (teaching, research, service) and ask faculty to make a commitment. There was general consensus that affiliated and core faculty (and the curriculum) should be drawn from all periods of history, not just the modern period.

The question was raised as to whether there is administrative support for European Studies or whether there is interest among faculty and students for European Studies. Discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:02 p.m.