

Latin American and Caribbean Studies Institute
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
2-11-09: 10:00 A.M. LACSI Meeting Room

Present: Paul Duncan
Dr. Doris Kadish
Dr. Betina Kaplan
Dr. Nicolás Lucero
Dr. Maria Navarro
Emily Parker
Dr. Sergio Quesada
Kathleen Schmaltz

Meeting began at 10:00 AM

Assistant Director's Report:

- Paul Duncan discussed his trip to Washington, D.C. last week for a meeting of NRC and LRC programs. His notes on the workshops and also the materials distributed will be available online at the LACSI WebCT site. These include, but are not limited to: tips for budgets, what the selection committee looks for in grant proposals, frequently-asked questions, and discussions on less-commonly-taught languages.

New Business:

- Dr. Kadish proposed a meeting on March 4th to discuss the details of the meeting to take place on March 3rd with Dr. David Nugent from Emory regarding the collaboration for the National Research Center grant.
- Dr. Kadish reported that she had made contact with Dr. Chad Howe (Linguistics) and Dr. Virginia Nazarea (Anthropology) regarding the interest that exists on our campus for Quechua. She will pursue the subject and discuss it with the representatives at Emory.
- The committee discussed the logistics concerning the principal investor for the grant. It was decided that Dr. Nugent will be asked to be the PI because of his standing in the Latin American program at Emory, but that Dr. Kadish will potentially be a co-PI.
- Paul Duncan suggested setting up a memorandum of understanding between Emory and UGA, which would be a legally-binding document that sets the parameters for this collaboration.
- Dr. Kadish asked how to proceed with plans for the collaboration. Dr. Kaplan suggested that the faculty identify what UGA's strengths are in order to be ready to build on those strengths, or plan fill in any gaps, in future contacts with Emory.
- Dr. Lucero suggested bringing outside lecturers to campus for the Willson Center grant. He also proposed collaboration with Emory, where one lecturer would come to Emory, and another to UGA, and students/faculty from each university would be welcome to attend. Dr. Navarro suggested that visits by outside speakers

be part of a day-long discussion of plans and developments regarding the NRC grant.

- The committee discussed looking into Tinker, Mellon, and Ford grants for bringing visiting lecturers. Paul Duncan suggested forming a committee to work on such grants. It was agreed that at the next meeting of the Executive Committee materials relevant to those grants should be obtained and discussed.
- Dr. Kadish will talk with Dr. Margaret Quesada, who runs the LRC at UGA, to discuss her planned proposal for an LRC (Language Research Center), also funded by the Department of Education.
- Dr. Kadish suggested for the next meeting that each of the faculty read the proposals that were copied from the earlier trip to Washington, D.C. It was agreed that each member would study the available materials from the perspective of their discipline to determine what needs to or can be done to further our agenda.
- Dr. Kadish gave a quick review of the progress with the PRAC report: all interviews have taken place, and she is optimistic that the report will be positive and constructive.
- Dr. Kaplan expressed concern about curricular decisions being made without input or voting by the entire faculty. Pros and cons of such involvement were discussed. It was decided that the matter would be revisited at the next meeting. Were such a change to be made, it would require a change in the bylaws by the Advisory Board.
- The Willson Center grant deadline is February 19. The proposed topic is “Interdisciplinary Issues from Latin American and Caribbean Studies Today.” Suggestions for possible guest speakers were provided, with the understanding that, were we successful, the details of the topic and speakers could be revisited by the Executive Committee as a whole. Dr. Kadish will write and submit the grant.

Business to be conducted before the next meeting: Read the examples of grant proposals to be posted on WebCT; obtain and review materials regarding Tinker, Ford, and Mellon grants for visiting professors.

Meeting ended at 12:00 P.M. with closing remarks by Dr. Kadish.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 4 at 10:00 A.M. in the LACSI Conference Room

Minutes recorded by Emily Parker, 2-12-09.