

Approval of minutes of June 3rd meeting

Ongoing Business

1. Resume Graduate Student Review

2. Discussion – In view of great demand for faculty labor, how can we make our annual Graduate Review more efficient?

Announcements – please read to the end

0. Vote on step - The votes that we made on Khalifa and Yao preceding our request for two lines were official and binding, but at that point we neglected to vote on step. We did Khalifa's step vote some weeks ago. After this meeting you will receive a ballot for the appointment of Vida Yao as Associate Professor (with tenure), Step 1. Note that everything in the question except the step has already been approved in an official, binding vote. This vote is a formality, but it has to be done.

1. New Colleague – Kareem Khalifa has accepted our job offer. He will move here July 1st 2023, after spending 2022-23 at the University of Connecticut Humanities Institute as the Future of Truth Fellow. He will organize a workshop for some time in the coming school year. Please express your preferences among the three ideas he's proposed.

2. TODAY - 4pm - Meeting about renovation – zoom (BYOB): discussing some design options with Amita Makdani.

3. KPPE 2022-23 - We will take up next fall how to decide on allocations of KPPE funds to conferences and workshops. We can discuss this and the First Year Seminar in an Away Day this Fall. Some time in Week Zero, or on a Sunday, would make sense to some of us. Please make suggestions, especially if those are not good times for you. We'll send around a doodle poll in September, along with some questions to think about.

4. Other funds - In the meantime, other funds are available to plan workshops for next year. In addition to one organized by Kareem Khalifa, we have resources for two more. You will receive **a google form for making a proposal, which you'll submit by July 15th. People without access to large research funds, e.g., endowed chairs, will be prioritized. Please let the chair know if you'd like to be a member of the group of faculty who decides among the proposals.**

5. Philosophy Department Commencement is Saturday, June 11th, on Coral Walk, reception starting 12:30, ceremony starting at 1. Please try to come if you can. Students and their parents appreciate it.

6. Paul Taylor Recruitment – Both Paul and his family and those of us who met with him last week seemed to be very pleased with their visit. A Visiting Professorship for Paul next year is off the table because he can't get out of chair duties. But we are tentatively planning for the following year (2023-24).

7. Grad Issues that need to be decided in the medium term (in no particular order: 1) Make GRE optional for grad admission permanently? 2) Change normative time to degree? 3) Raise stipend by 1K? 4) Make MA required for PhD? 5) Change something in funding or deadlines to alleviate the new absence of lectureships for our recent PhD's?

On the GRE policy question (from Brad Skow, MIT):

NYU, Pitt, and USC are like your program and mine: they have yet to decide whether to return to requiring the GREs, or to continue making them optional. As for which programs have decided on a GRE policy, the list is as follows:

Program Policy

Rutgers Optional
 Berkeley Don't accept
 Yale Don't require
 Michigan Don't accept
 Harvard Optional
 Princeton Optional

One problem here is that programs (like ours) who haven't decided, may not want to end up being the only program requiring the GRE. To try to get around this, we (I hope—this too is subject to discussion) will be deciding between “GREs optional” and “GREs required—if sufficiently many other schools also require them,” or something to that effect (doing it this way was suggested by Cian Dorr, DGS at NYU; they may explore a similar option, but won't be meeting about this until the fall).

In our discussions here, some people are pro-requiring the GREs, and some prefer to make them optional; I'm afraid I can't predict which way we will go in the end.

Presumably, the don't-accept policy of some departments is because if only some applicants are submitting GRE scores there is an imbalance of information and potentially unfair advantage.

8. GRMs and GSRMs - The Humanities is consistently getting fewer of these awards, partly because of gift balances. (1/3 fewer GSRMs now than in 2014, with a steady decline.) Another

reason is that the methodological expectations are shifting scienceward. One remedy is to describe in detail things that we take for granted about what happens in meetings with advisees. E.g., “follow-through,” and “assessing bibliography.” What the scientists do in meetings with students sounds like more in part because they give descriptions of the obvious.