

Approval of minutes of May 27th meeting

Ongoing Business

1. Decide by June 10th: Next year's searches – we need to choose fields and rank before the end of this term so that we can get the searches approved over the summer and avoid waiting until October to advertise.

Assuming the Dean gives us two lines to search, the Chair suggests for both that we search Open specialization, Open competence, tenurable rank. (Any suggestion of our having particular needs will discourage applicants and shrink our pool.) **Yes or No?**

2. Decide by June 10th: 0% Appointment – Calvin has proposed that we offer Eleanor Kaufman, Professor of Comparative Literature, English, and French and Francophone Studies at UCLA a 0% appointment in Philosophy. You received an email from Calvin on May 16th with materials for considering this possibility. Calvin recommended reading the introduction to the Deleuze book he sent us. ***Please read that by Friday and be prepared to discuss.***

3. Resume Graduate Student Review – years 2-4

Announcements – please read to the end

0. One remaining faculty meeting, and a renovation meeting:

June 10th – 2-4pm - Grad Review – First years, and any leftover questions

June 10th - 4pm - Meeting about renovation – zoom (BYOB)

1. KPPE 2022-23: We need a little structure for deciding how to allocate funds to conferences and such next year. So **the chair will send a google form for making a proposal, which you'll submit by August 1st. Then either all or a group of faculty will discuss which we'd like to do and how to decide.**

2. End-of-year party: The tradition is back! David Kaplan will host our party on Sunday (June 5th). You got an email from David with the sign-up sheet for bringing food. **Anticipated faculty attendance is a crucial motivator for grad students to come out too.** Please let the Chair know if you are coming so we can plan motivating emails. Or write motivating emails yourself.

3. 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.

4. Grad Issues that need to be decided in the medium term: 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?

Other departments on 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.

5. 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.