

Sign Language Advisory Board Meeting

Thursday, November 9th 2017

Dean's Conference Room 101, 4:30 PM

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Carlson at 4:39pm.

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- *Board Members Present:* Rosa Rodriguez PPLC/SPC
- *Board Members Absent:* Jose Gutierrez, Vicky Fales, Daniel LeMay, Sammie Elser, Chris Wagner
- *SPC Attendees:* Dean Leopold, Dr. Beth Carlson, Marika Robinson, Carol Downing, Lisa Rose, Rachel Gotte , Yary Sewell
- Interpreters-Val and Nathan

II. MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

Read

Motion to approve by: Rosa Rodriguez (a quorum was not present)

Noted: Dean Leopold noted discrepancies in the minutes. It was decided to continue the meeting with the on hand copy. An amendment would be submitted if changes needed to be made.

III. Old Business

Completion of Comprehensive Academic Program Review (CAPR) 2016/2017

The CAPR is occurring and results will be posted in the Spring of 2018. Dean Leopold reviewed the goals of the CAPR and how it operates relative to the review of the Sign Language Interpreting Program.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Discussion occurred about adding new board members; however, that was tabled for a later time when additional board members were present.

Dean Leopold acknowledged that the closing of the Associates in Sciences (AS) Sing Language Interpretation Program (SLIP) created a rough period for faculty and students and commended the faculty for working through the changes. Relative to the student and faculty representation at the Board of Trustees meeting, the opinions and feedback provided from board members and students offered insights and helped with the transition.

Changes in the SLIP program

Part One: Dean Leopold explained part one of the new Associate of Arts (AA) transfer plan and AS "Teach Out" program starting in the spring of 2018. Dean Leopold will send out notifications to all students coded as AS degree in Sign Language Interpretation of the new plan. Dr. Carlson reiterated the students must have SLIP as a confirmed major. Dean Leopold stated that the code

students needed to have as an INTRP-AS degree-seeking student. It was noted that currently there are 170 registered students, 95 that have actually taken ASL I. Rosa Rodriguez asked about the remainder of the students. Dean Leopold stated that these 95 students have not taken action to further their goals, and that they have not taken any of the classes they need.

Part two: A Bachelor in Science (BS) degree with a new sub-plan in Educational Interpreting has been created in the College of Education's Educational Studies and Community Leadership. The sub-plan will require AA transfer students to have had A I-IV, Deaf Culture and ASL Structure. This plan will be an American Sign Language (ASL) Studies AA transfer degree.

The bachelor's degree will consist of a new level of interpreting classes developed for bachelor's level content. Entering students will have completed the 30 hours required for the AA transfer plan in ASL Studies or be enrolled as teach-out students with the required prerequisites. The remaining classes (30 hours) will be in the Educational Studies and will include the advanced interpreting classes. The first three courses for this degree will be submitted for approval to the Curriculum and Instruction Committee this month. The bachelor's degree begins in the fall of 2018.

Lisa Rose added that she has an interest in teaching a course she developed and taught at University of North Florida (UNF) titled, "Advanced ASL Classifiers." She has the curriculum and is willing to share. She highly recommended the course for interpreting studies. Lisa felt that her course would improve the skills of interpreter graduates. Dr. Carlson asked Dean Leopold if the AA plan could add a course or offer Lisa's class as an option. It was agreed Deaf Culture is an elective and not accepted at University of South Florida (USF) so it could be considered as an alternative course. Discussion on that additional class was continued with reference to the need for advanced classifier skills development as students would greatly benefit. The new course discussion was tabled for a later date.

Graduate Testimonials

Dr. Carlson introduced Rachel Gotte as a fall 2017 graduate from the SLIP and the recipient of the Betty Edwards Award. Rachel stated that she was excited and a little scared about her upcoming graduation, but she also felt confident that she has the tools and resources to be successful. Rachel worked full time while taking her classes in the program and was able to complete her degree while a part-time student. Her favorite aspect of the program is the smaller class sizes and the individual mentoring by the professors. She stated, *"Everyone was really willing to meet with me, work with me, support me through the process, and allow me to do this program alongside with my life, so I could be successful."* A discussion followed about adding this quote to the website with a picture of Rachel Gotte. Rachel also expressed an interest in serving on the board on the SLIP.

Website Additions/Changes

Dr. Carlson opened the discussion with the changes that needed to be made on the website. Most importantly, the information for students is difficult to access. Currently the website is not user friendly. The new website is designed for recruiting for prospective students. The old

website is still available, but one must know how to access it. All information is located on old website. Dean Leopold suggested attaching the old website to information for students. All agreed that the SPC website is not user friendly and should be made so for students.

FLDOE Statewide Program Updates

Ms. Downing and Dr. Carlson updated 16/17: see-attached link:

www.fl DOE.org/core/fileparse.php/13175/.../1713100301-1617.rtf

Suggestion is made to carefully look over information to understand the statewide requirements for American Sign Language teaching and Sign Language Interpreting.

Update on NIC Testing

All 12 fall student graduates have been funded for the National Interpreting Knowledge Test. It was noted that 75% took and passed last fall and the funding has continued.

Ms. Downing and Dr. Carlson discussed the Gallaudet trip. The proposal was too late; the Student Government Association cut funding one day before the SLIP students had a chance to submit their proposal.

Dean Leopold confirmed that the budget had been tightened with other groups as well, not only Communications. All departments have had budget cuts across the board, even the Study Abroad program, which was cut in half.

Helen and Mildred Goldman Scholarship Awards

Karalyn Gillian was this year's winner. Names are submitted annually by students. Dr. Carlson and Rosa Rodrigues were among the reviewers. Dr. Carlson and Rosa explained the history of the Helen and Mildred Goldman scholarship.

Date for 50 Year Celebration for Deaf Program/SLIP – July 30th-August 2, 2018

Dr. Carlson opened the discussion with information about the past Deaf graduates from Saint Petersburg Jr. College who have opened a Facebook page and are sharing communication amongst social media and proposed the July 30, 2018 reunion. Approximately 80-90 people have shown an interest. The group proposed the dates from July 30th – August 2, 2018. The group is hoping once dates are set, SPC will offer a location on campus. Discussion continued about support for the group; funding, planning committee, etc. It was suggested to involve the SPC alumni support group become involved. Dean Leopold offered support from Communications. Dr. Carlson will contact Francis Neu in the alumni office for more information on how to support the student efforts.

Need for more INT faculty

Carol Downing emphasized the need for more interpreting faculty and suggested that our program advertise. She asked if there was a budget to do so and now that could be started.

Dean Leopold responded that the need is there, but that a “Human Resource bucket” needed to be established first and an advertisement could follow.

Dr. Carlson confirmed that Vicky Fales is not teaching this spring and Anthony Verdeja is teaching in the fall.

Carol Downing voiced her concern about the amount of faculty needed in the fall of 2018 with the new additional courses. Dean Leopold suggested a meeting in the spring to map out the courses and faculty needs

Rosa Rodriguez asked how many INT classes are offered each semester, and Carol Downing responded that currently (3-4) changing to (6-8) and then again to (10-14). Suggestion was made to advertise with the local news that S.P.C. interpreting. Carol Downing will find a local news resource person.

Role Moving Forward

Address proper advertising, and gaining and retaining more qualified adjuncts for interpreting.

Utilize social media more.

FRID Awards/Scholarships and Awards

Rachel Gotte was the recipient of this award.

Plan Next Meeting and Suggest New Board Members

Carol suggestion Deone Myers, Trish Davidson, Kenneth Houghtaling. Dean Leopold confirmed board members could be adjuncts but not faculty. Yary Santiago suggested Asad Moosa who works at the Epi Center and is an incredible support to our A.S.L. and S.L.I.P. students. Yary was also suggested as a board member and she said that she was willing to do so. Discussion continued about the board and the need to find committed people for the roles

Carol, Dr. Carlson, Sam, Mike will lead the search for the new board members.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Rosa Rodriguez motioned for adjournment. The motion was seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 pm.