



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Department of English, Comparative Literature, & Linguistics

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To: Sheryl Fontaine, Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences

From: Franz Mueller, Linguistics Program Coordinator

Date: August 27, 2020

Re: Department Response to Dean's Summary and Evaluation of the English and Comparative Literature Program Performance Review

We greatly appreciate Dean Fontaine's comments with regard to our program and look forward to working with her office to implement recommendations that have emerged from this PPR process. For instance, Dr. Fontaine points out that while our lower-division enrollment is healthy, principally due to our large 100-level GE course offerings, the linguistics program could do better attracting and retaining upper-division students. She therefore suggests developing one of our courses for inclusion in GE section C3. We wholeheartedly agree with this proposal and are planning to use our proposed new course on English as a Global Language for this purpose. Indeed our proposed course is based on a similar course at San Jose State and is used there for exactly that function.

We have already implemented two proposals by the external review team and the dean, that is to offer LING 597 Project on a once a year basis only and to apply for special MCF funds (which we have successfully done). In our most recent linguistics faculty meeting, we also committed to removing LING 412 as a prerequisite for our MA program, following the suggestions of the dean and the external reviewers. Both of these are changes that we had been mulling for quite some time, but this PPR has finally nudged us to implement them. It is good to see that a PPR can indeed be a useful exercise with positive outcomes in practice.

We gratefully acknowledge all of the dean's suggestions. We will work to improve our outreach to potential majors and transfer students who may have decided to declare other majors or to attend another university and explore the possibility of collaborating with the computer science department on a potential computational linguistics track.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our program.