

Slavic Department Meeting

June 5, 2026, 2:30 PM

PDL A-216

Attending: Michael Biggins, Agnieszka Jezyk, Bojan Belic, Zoya Polack, Valentina Zaitseva, Gordana Crnkovic, Jose Alaniz, Piotr Florczyk, Sasha Senderovich, Barbara Henry

Updates from the Chairs' meeting

Salary increases will likely be 2%, no unit adjustments. But we need to go through the merit pay reports, etc. Faculty will need to keep track of their own paperwork. Goga doesn't have access to former personnel files kept by the office.

Humanities Division pays for itself, does not have budget deficit. TA-ships will in future likely be apportioned according to enrollments.

Changes in CAS budgeting – the College itself will pay for all its costs, including rent, maintenance, etc. New HR manager for the cohort coming in to replace Beth Beatty and Jenn Mineer, who replaced Paul Siscel (now at Foster) some two months or so ago.

College & Slavic Department updates (Goga)

GLITS really helps our enrollment numbers; there are @30 GLITS majors, fastest growing humanities major. GLITS minor? Not a great idea – offering a minor would probably cannibalize number of students who might otherwise double major.

TA-ships: we used to have 9, now we have 6, because of the higher salaries that union negotiated for TAs. 3 TA-ships go for teaching 3 quarters of Russian 1st year. Goga determines who gets a TA for other 3 TA-ships based on prior enrollments. *Barbara makes impassioned plea for faculty to include prior enrollments in spreadsheet for course planning!*

Withering: make withered sections within 100-level designation up or down. To wit: SLAV 210 should *not* be withered with ENGL 450.

MAIN OFFICE: keep the main office closed if no staff or faculty is in the main office area.

Scheduling changes: check with Goga and Barbara before making changes in scheduling, in who teaches what when etc.

Task force on graduate education: Ellwood Wiggins, chair of Germanics, is starting one up, get in touch with him or Marianne Stecher if you are interested in serving on it.

Deadline for submitting proposals for guest talks, travel support: **November 1 2026**. It's not practical for chair to have more than one deadline. Discussion of reimbursements and timelines for those. One should submit expenses for reimbursement of non-travel items (conference registration) within 60 days of purchasing them. Linda Nelson sent info about 60 days. *Travel expenses* – submit reimbursements after the trip, also within 60 days.

Merit & activity forms: Goga asks faculty to include numbers of withered sections with their respective enrollments so that it's clear that it's only ONE class with withered sections.

Course elimination: Re: curriculum "refreshment" process: Goga thanks Barbara for acting as The Nettoyeur, eliminating 31 classes from our curriculum, a process that goes through Quali, then FCAS.

TA strike? Possible next Spring, when the current contract expires.

Slavic Convocation logistics

Now it's all up to faculty as we have much reduced staff help. We have the room from 1-5; arrive at 1 to help set up. Sariah will help with programs. Introductions are assigned.

Graduate Students' Progress (Graduate Advisors)

Scheduling exams for Rachel & Seorim, and Svetlana Ostroverkhova's defense – chairs should be in touch, also with Sasha, who's taking over GPC during Jose's sabbatical

Discussion Items:

- **Graduate Program** (admissions, TA-ships, travel support) – We have a new student, funded as “Top Scholar,” from Montana coming in fall 26
 - Plans afoot for social gatherings for grad students in humanities so that they have a community. Not clear how this would be funded or organized because of no staff. This very much falls under GLITS's mandate. Sasha will bring the Translation Hub into the mix.
- Curriculum
- Slavic Excellence Prizes
- **Conference travel/subvention support for faculty on sabbatical** – faculty agree that scholars should be supported while on sabbatical
- Czech question – Jan Pellant – Barbara will write to REECAS re: organization

Action Items:

- Vote on Zoya's Emerita status – unanimously approved.
- Merit votes

Standing Committees Assignments for 2025/26:

- The Graduate Admissions/TA-ship Committee: José, Piotr, Sasha
- The Vadim Pahn Scholarship Committee: Valentina, Zoya
- Slavic Excellence Prizes Committee: Sasha, Piotr
- Advisory Committee re: temporary, short-term, and visiting appointments: Bojan, Barbara

Events:

- Convocation and Awards Ceremony: June 12, 2026, 1:30-4:00 PM, Allen North Library Petersen Room (4th Floor)