

Minutes for Commission Mixte meeting - 2 June 2015, 18h

Present: Deborah Madsen, Valerie Fehlbaum, Amy Brown, Linda Hinni, Gioia Cacchioli, Anne-Laure Danville, and Elio Correia-Fonseca.

Apologies: Mee Ji

Departmental report from Deborah Madsen:

New members of CM:

- Ghada Ben Saïd: BA representative
- Roberto Keller: BA representative
- Roberta Marangi: BA (complément) representative
- Olivia Lindem: MA representative
- Guillemette Bolens: *corps professoral* representative

Outgoing members of CM:

- Elio Correia-Fonseca
- Anne-Laure Danville
- Linda Hinni
- Mee Ji
- Deborah Madsen

Staff News:

- Lucy Perry and Anna Iatsenko are leaving the department because their contracts have ended
- Deborah Madsen comes to the end of her mandate as Director; the new departmental Director will be Guillemette Bolens, from 14 July 2015
- Simon Swift will begin his post as Associate Professor of Modern English Literature, in August 2015
- A new assistant in Modern English Literature, Patrick Jones, will join us in the spring semester
- Devani Singh, a postdoctoral researcher working with Lukas Erne on a project funded by the FNS and “BodmerLab” will join us in the autumn
- In the autumn semester Alexandre Fachard will continue to fill the vacant assistantship in Modern English Literature
- Sarah Brazil has been appointed maître-assistante as of August 2015
- Deborah Madsen will be on sabbatical leave in the spring semester; in her absence, Erzsi Kukorelly will teach the BA1 lecture course

Other department news

Writing Lab changes:

New monitor: Marine Chatelangat; Olivia Lindem will continue as monitor

BA report:

At the summer 2014 meeting the *Commission mixte* recommended the change of assessment in the BA1 module, which came into effect in 2014-15. The module grade is now the average of all four *contrôle continu* tests rather than the best three test results. CM heard that the effect of this change on module grades in June 2015 was minimal. There were no cases where a student failed the module because of the impact of the new system. However, this year a higher number of students with fail grades for the three *contrôle continu* tests requested to be withdrawn from the final test. It was noted that this practice can potentially cause difficulties obtaining the minimum number of credits (24) in the first two semesters of study required by the Faculty regulations.

MA report:

Nothing to report.

AOB

The *Commission mixte* discussed strategies for highlighting its work among students. Two proposals were approved:

- 1) a member will attend the first lecture in the BA1 and BA2 lecture courses to introduce themselves as the representative and to outline the work of the CM
- 2) a page will be added to the first year brochure, including photos and contact details of the members of the *Commission mixte*.

The aim of these strategies is to encourage students to bring to the CM suggestions for new initiatives rather than seeing the CM only negatively as a place where complaints and problems are discussed.