

Faculty Meeting

Friday March 7, 2025

1:30 P.M.

Present: Peter Beerli, Hristo Chipilski, Nick Dexter, Gordon Erlebacher, Chen Huang, Alan Lemmon, Anke Meyer-Baese, Tomek Plewa, Bryan Quaife, Sachin Shanbhag, Kevin Speer, Xiaoqiang Wang, Olmo Zavala Romero

1. The budget for the 2025-2026 academic year was discussed. It is similar to last year's budget. In fall 2024, there were 25 graduate students, and the plan for fall 2025 is to hire four new students to be funded through grants. The foundation has sufficient accessible amounts to weather problems in fiscal year 2026. The department's goal is to maintain 25 graduate students; however, if no additional grants are secured, there will be a strain on our future budget and potential deficits in future student enrollment.
2. The faculty voted to approve the courtesy appointment of Thomas Juzek (modern languages/linguistics.) Another candidate for a courtesy appointment, Amir Gandomi, was proposed two days before the faculty meeting. It was decided to have an email vote for him on Monday, March 17, 2025. [The courtesy appointment for A. Gandomi was approved by email vote on March 17, 2025]
3. The faculty expressed interest in improving the department website. It was suggested that we meet with our IT to discuss these changes.