

**DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES
CALENDAR YEAR 2013
STRATEGIC PLANNING ANNUAL REPORT**

Delbert Burkett, Chair
102 Coates Hall
225-578-2389
dburket@lsu.edu

PART I: CHAIR'S REVIEW OF 2013

A few changes in department administration took place in fall 2013, as the following table indicates.

| | 2013 spring | 2013 fall |
|--|--------------------|------------------|
| Department chair | Burkett | Burkett |
| Section head, Philosophy | Roland | Sirridge |
| Section head, Religious Studies | Arai | Pasquier |
| Undergraduate advisor, Philosophy | Song | Rocha |
| Undergraduate advisor, Religious Studies | Pasquier | Irvine |
| Director of Graduate Studies | Schufreider | Schufreider |
| Administrative coordinator 4 | Toups | Toups |
| Administrative coordinator 3 | Covington | Rabalais |

In 2013, the department spent much of its time conducting searches to fill faculty positions. The spring saw the completion of the search for a specialist in Ancient Philosophy. The hiring of Rachel Parsons contributed to the department's goal of increasing the number of women on the faculty. In the fall, the department began three other searches: for a position in the History of Christianity, a position in the Philosophy of Science, and a joint position with Women's and Gender Studies in Feminist Philosophy. All three searches would be concluded successfully in the spring of 2014.

In other developments among the faculty, the department reviewed James Rocha for tenure and promotion and sent forward a unanimous recommendation in favor. Two former adjuncts became full-time instructors: Marco Altamirano in Philosophy and Madhuri Yadlapati in Religious Studies. In spring 2013, Mary Sirridge continued her year-long sabbatical. In fall 2013, François Raffoul began a year-long sabbatical, and Jeff Roland took a one-semester sabbatical.

The department publication rate in 2013 was 2.03 articles per faculty member, the best since 2010 (2.22). The average rate for the three-year period 2011-13 was 1.78, which exceeds the department goal of 1.5 for the five-year period 2011-15. Noteworthy publications included the edited volumes *The Bloomsbury Companion to Heidegger* (Raffoul) and *Gods of the Mississippi* (Pasquier), 4 articles in refereed journals, and 9 chapters in edited volumes.

With respect to grant activity, Michael Pasquier received an NEH Summer Stipend (\$6000), and Jeff Roland received a Manship Summer Research Award (\$8000). At this point, the department has achieved its goal of obtaining at least two NEH or NEA grants in the five-year period of 2011-15.

As for teaching, the department taught a total of 5287 semester credit hours in 2013-14. This was down from 5928 in 2012-13 but higher than 2009-10 (4280) and 2010-11 (4613). Such fluctuations are normal, influenced by a variety of factors: the number of faculty who leave,

retire, or go on sabbatical; the number of instructors and adjuncts; and the ratio of high-enrollment to low-enrollment courses. The number of majors in Philosophy or Religious Studies who graduated increased from 20 (2011-12) to 31 (2012-13). At this point, it does not appear that the department will meet its goal of graduating an average of 40 majors per year over the five-year period 2011-15. On the other hand, Philosophy and Religious Studies are the only disciplines in the humanities and social sciences for which the student demand has not declined in recent years.

Overall the department is meeting its goals. The primary challenge faced by the department is a shortage of suitable faculty office space. Requests for additional space in Coates Hall have been denied. As a result, the department will be forced to lodge two incoming faculty members in attic spaces that are generally assigned to graduate students. Another incoming faculty member will have to lodge in a different building. The shortage will become even more critical next year as the department grows.

PART II: STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Mission Statement

The mission of the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies is 1) to preserve and effectively transmit to undergraduate and graduate students knowledge about the philosophies and religions that have shaped and continue to shape the history and cultures of the world; 2) to develop in our students the ability to read, to understand, and to think critically and synthetically; 3) to generate new knowledge and deeper understanding of philosophical and religious matters as a contribution to knowledge in these disciplines; and 4) to make professional expertise in philosophy and religious studies available to meet the needs of the larger community in appropriate ways.

Vision Statement

The vision of the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies is to be a community of teacher-scholars of the highest caliber who work together effectively to accomplish the mission of the department.

Department Goals

Goal 1: to increase the department’s publication rate from an average of 1.31 articles¹ per faculty member per year over a five-year period (2006-2010) to an average of 1.5 articles per faculty member per year over a five-year period (2011-2015).

Table 1: Department Publication Rate

| | 2006-2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|--|-----------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Average number of articles per faculty | 1.31 | 1.44 | 1.88 | 2.03 | | |

¹ Here the term “article” refers to either a refereed journal article or a chapter in an edited volume. As in the 2010 NRC survey, a book (whether single-authored, co-authored, or edited) will count as five “articles.”

The department publication rate in 2013 exceeded the rate for 2012, just as the rate for 2012 exceeded the rate for 2011. The average rate for the three-year period 2011-13 is 1.78, which exceeds the goal of 1.5 for the five-year period 2011-15.

Goal 2: to increase the number of research grants obtained, specifically to increase the number of NEH (or NEA) research grants from one over a five-year period (2006-2010) to at least two over the next five-year period (2011-15).

Table 2: NEH (NEA) Research Grants

| | 2006-2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|---|-----------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Number of NEH or NEA research grants obtained | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | | |

Michael Pasquier received an NEH Summer Stipend in 2013, in addition to the NEH Summer Institute fellowship and NEA Art Works Design Grant that he and his collaborators received in 2012. At this point, Goal 2 of the department's five-year strategic plan has been reached.

Goal 3: To increase the number of students graduating with a major in philosophy or religious studies from an average of 33 per year over a five-year period (2006-2010) to an average of 40 per year over the next five-year period (2011-15).

Table 3: Number of undergraduate majors graduating per year

| | 2006-10 | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | 2014-15 |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Majors graduating per year | 33 | 31 | 20 | 31 | | |

The number of majors graduating in 2010-11 was close to the average for the previous five years. The number dropped in 2011-12. This drop probably corresponded to the drop in number of majors in 2009-10. Because the number of majors has increased since then, the number of majors graduating also increased in 2012-13. Currently the department is not accomplishing the goal of increasing the average number of graduating majors to 40.

Goal 4: To increase the number of women faculty from four to five by 2016.

Table 4: Number of women faculty

| | 2009-2010 | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | 2014-15 |
|-------------------------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Number of women faculty | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 7 | |

No new hires were made for 2010-11 or 2011-12. In 2012-13, Molly Reed was hired as an instructor in Religious Studies, bringing the number of women faculty to five. In 2013-14, Rachel Parsons joined the faculty in a tenure-track position in Philosophy, and Madhuri Yadlapati became a full-time instructor in Religious Studies, raising the number of women faculty to 7. However, possible hires over the remaining period of the plan will continue to take into account the gender imbalance within the faculty.

PART III: PRIORITY PLANNING FOR 2014

The priority for 2014 will be to replace faculty who have left the University. The Philosophy faculty hopes to fill a vacant position in social/political philosophy. Filling this position would be a first step toward instituting a new concentration in Law, Ethics, and Social Justice. The Religious Studies faculty hopes to fill a vacant position in the religion of Islam.

APPENDIX 1: FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2013

Significant accomplishments and activities of the faculty in 2013 are itemized in the following lists.

Faculty publications

- Edited volumes: Pasquier (*Gods of the Mississippi*); Raffoul (*The Bloomsbury Companion to Heidegger*)
- Book translation: Raffoul
- 4 articles in refereed journals: Cogburn and Roland (1); Pasquier (2); Sirridge (1)
- 9 chapters in edited volumes: Arai (1); Raffoul (5); Roland (1); Schufreider (2)
- 2 online journal articles: Cogburn and Silcox (1); Pasquier (1)
- 4 book reviews: Cogburn (1); Pasquier (1); Roland (2)
- Dictionary article: Sirridge
- Documentary film: Pasquier

Conference and lecture activity

- 10 papers presented at professional conferences: Pasquier (4); Raffoul (2); Roland (1); Sirridge (3)
- Keynote addresses: Raffoul (2)
- Invited lectures: Raffoul (2)

Grants

- Pasquier: NEH Summer Stipend (\$6000)
- Roland: Manship Summer Research award (\$8000)

Teaching activities

- Service on dissertation committees: Finley (6); Irvine (2); Raffoul (1); Schufreider (3)
- M.A. theses directed: Cogburn (2); Finley (2); Roland (1); Sarkar (2); Schufreider (1)
- Honors thesis directed: Cogburn
- HNRS course offered: Pasquier, HNRS 2012
- Independent studies offered: Finley (4); Sirridge (3)
- McNair Scholars mentored: Finley (2)

Professional service

- Conference sessions chaired: Finley (1); Roland (1)
- Administrative positions in professional organizations: Finley (1); Pasquier (3)
- Journals or book series edited: Pasquier, coeditor of *Journal of Southern Religion*; Raffoul, coeditor of series "Contemporary French Thought" at SUNY Press

- Service on editorial boards: Cogburn, *Teaching Philosophy*; Cogburn, *O-Zone*; Isbell, *Bible and Interpretation*; Isbell, *Women in Judaism*; Raffoul, *Research in Phenomenology*; Raffoul, *The Yearbook of Comparative Literature*; Raffoul, online journal *Mondesfrancophones.com*
- Referee for journal or press: Finley (journal); Pasquier (2 presses); Raffoul, (several presses); Roland (2 journals)
- Referee for national or foreign organization: Raffoul, philosophy evaluator for Chateaubriand fellowship
- Publicity endorsements for presses: Raffoul

University service

- Finley, McNair Scholars Application Panel
- Finley, HSS Pre-Doctoral Scholars Advisory Board
- Finley, Diversity Action Team
- Irvine, University Senate
- Irvine, College Senate (spring 2013)
- Irvine, executive committee, Jewish Studies program
- Pasquier, Search Committee for Dean of HSS
- Pasquier, Graduate School Awards Committee
- Raffoul, HSS College Senate (spring 2013)
- Roland, University Senate
- Sirridge, College P&T Committee

Department service

- Cogburn, Assessment Chair
- Cogburn, Chair of Rocha's tenure committee
- Irvine, undergraduate advisor (fall 2013)
- Pasquier, undergraduate advisor (spring 2013)
- Pasquier, section head (fall 2013)
- Roland, section head (spring 2013)
- Roland, Chair of search committee for feminist philosophy (2012-13)
- Sarkar, Chair of Search Committee for position in Philosophy of Science
- Schufreider, Director of Graduate Studies
- Schufreider, Chair of Search Committee for position in Feminist Philosophy
- Sirridge, Philosophy Section Head (fall 2013)

Lectures sponsored by department

- Sixth annual Graduate Philosophy Conference

APPENDIX 2: UNIVERSAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

The following data on universal performance indicators from EIS does not distinguish Philosophy from Religious Studies.

Graduates per degree program

| | 2009-10 | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 |
|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Undergraduate majors | 30 | 31 | 20 | 31 | --- |
| Undergraduate minors | 54 | 59 | 43 | 58 | --- |
| Masters' students | 3 | 8 | 7 | 4 | --- |

Total student headcount per degree program

| | 2009-10 | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 |
|---------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Senior College majors | 78 | 77 | 82 | 91 | 92 |
| University College majors | 15 | 28 | 21 | 26 | 13 |
| Undergraduate minors | 80 | 83 | 67 | 77 | 92 |
| Masters' students | 15 | 12 | 12 | 14 | 15 |

Semester credit hours

| | 2009-10 | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 |
|---------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Lower-division | 3001 | 3617 | 4678 | 5210 | 4593 |
| Upper-division | 1201 | 927 | 672 | 672 | 631 |
| Total undergraduate | 4202 | 4544 | 5350 | 5882 | 5224 |
| Graduate | 78 | 69 | 78 | 46 | 63 |
| Total | 4280 | 4613 | 5428 | 5928 | 5287 |

Senior College undergraduate majors by race/ethnicity

| | 2009-10 | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Am. Ind. Or Alaska native only | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Asian only | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Black/African American only | 2 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 7 |
| Hispanic/Latino & any race | 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Native Hawaiian/Pac. Isle only | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Non-resident alien | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Race and ethnicity unknown | 5 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| Two+ races (non-Hispan/Latino) | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| White only | 64 | 63 | 64 | 73 | 73 |
| Total | 78 | 77 | 82 | 91 | 92 |

Senior College undergraduate majors by gender

| | 2009-10 | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 |
|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Female | 28 | 21 | 25 | 36 | 33 |
| Male | 50 | 56 | 57 | 55 | 59 |
| Total | 78 | 77 | 82 | 91 | 92 |

Full-time faculty by race

| | 2009-10 | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Asian only | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Black/African American only | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Hispanic/Latino and any race | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| White only | 15 | 15 | 16 | 15 | 13 |
| Non-resident alien | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Total | 19 | 19 | 20 | 19 | 19 |

Full-time faculty by gender

| | 2009-10 | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 |
|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Female | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Male | 15 | 15 | 16 | 14 | 13 |
| Total | 19 | 19 | 20 | 19 | 19 |

Faculty productivity

| | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 |
|---------------------------------|---------|------|------|------|------|
| Authored books | 2 | 2 | 1 | | |
| Edited volumes | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Book translations | | 1 | | 1 | 1 |
| Documentary film | | | 1 | | 1 |
| Articles in refereed journals | 5 | 10 | 9 | 12 | 4 |
| Chapters in edited volumes | 3 | 9 | 6 | 10 | 9 |
| Electronic articles | | 1 | | | 2 |
| Review articles | | | | | |
| Articles in non-refereed venues | | | | 1 | |
| Encyclopedia articles | 4 | 13 | | 1 | 1 |
| Book reviews | 5 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 4 |
| Conference papers | 14 | 22 | 10 | 15 | 10 |
| Lectures (non-local) | no data | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Lectures (local, non-LSU) | no data | 8 | 2 | 6 | |
| Lectures (LSU) | no data | 13 | 9 | 3 | |

Faculty research awards

| | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 |
|----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| NEH | | 1 | | 1 | 1 |
| NEA | | | | 1 | |
| ATLAS | 1 | | | | |
| Other external | | 2 | | | |
| Manship Summer Award | | | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| COR Summer Stipend | | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| Other internal | | | 3 | | |

Total research expenditures

| | 2009-10 | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| July 1 Operating Budget | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| June 30 Expenditures | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| State Sponsored Programs | 44,587 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Endowment Income | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 0 | 0 |

Service learning

| | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 |
|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Courses taught | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Students enrolled | 0 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 0 |

Signature of chair Delbert Busby Date 5/15/2014