

## **JSIS FACULTY MEETING Minutes**

**June 8, 2021**

9:30 – 11:00am

Meeting attendees: Mika Ahuvia, Marie Anchordoguy, David Bachman, Jeff Begun, Jessica Beyer, Patrick Christie, Sara Curran, Rebakah Daro Minarchek, Madeleine Dong, Leela Fernandes, Kathie Friedman, Christoph Giebel, Liora Halperin, Judy Henchy, Danny Hoffman, Hajin Jun, Sunila Kale, Sabine Lang, Bill Lavelly, James Lin, Rick Lorenz, Tony Lucero, Phil Lyon, Mark Metzler, Stephen Meyers, Matthew Mosca, Devin Naar, Christian Novetzke, Robert Pekkanen, Saadia Pekkanen, Noam Pianko, Deborah Porter, Scott Radnitz, Cabeiri Robinson, Sasha Senderovich, Clark Sorensen, Kevin Swantek, Jonathan Warren, Mike Williams, Nathalie Williams, Shelly Wolf, Anand Yang, Glenn Young

### **Meeting Agenda**

1. Search Committee updates
- 2 PhD Admissions for 2021-2022
3. Fall Quarter Preparations and Updates
4. Concluding Announcements and Thanks to Outgoing JSIS leadership:
  - Deborah Porter, Chair of the Diversity and Equity Committee
  - Nathalie Williams, Director of the PhD Program
  - Tony Lucero, Associate Director
  - Christian Novetzke, Associate Director

Leela Fernandes gave an update on faculty hires for fall quarter with a review of what the faculty had previously decided. The 2 priorities that the faculty voted on in Fall 2020 included:

1. Environment in Global Perspective
2. Political Economy, Development and Inequality

The descriptions for the two searches are drawn from the Strategic Hiring plan voted on by faculty in Fall 2020. Tony Lucero was announced as chair of the search committee.

The faculty discussed the framing of the search and job ad for the tenure track search. Some faculty members raised questions about the scope of the search. They discussed whether advertising in both fields would be too broad and whether there would be too much work for the search committee. Leela Fernandes explained that the broad search is meant to attract a more diverse pool of candidates. She also indicated the framing was based on advice from the divisional dean. Tony Lucero, as search committee chair, supported the idea of a broad search and suggested it could lead to target of opportunity candidates. He also indicated that he thought the committee would be up to the additional work load to find the right pool of candidates. Jonathan Warren raised questions about what the term development meant and how the ad would be written. In response Leela Fernandes announced that JSIS would solicit feedback on the ad and Tony Lucero agreed to collect the feedback. Tony Lucero also stated that the search would be transparent and deliberative. Some faculty asked about the potential for joint hires and it was explained that those decisions could only be made once there was a short-list of candidates.

Nathalie Williams presented on the PhD Committee's recommendation to suspend PhD admissions for the 2021-2022 academic year. She announced that a PhD program can be suspended for a maximum of 2 years according to graduate school rules. The goal in suspending the PhD program for a 2<sup>nd</sup> year is to address issues summarized in the PhD program report by Ben Gardner and Wolf Latsch. During 2021-2022, faculty will evaluate recommendations of the report to seriously rethink the program. Faculty noted that the findings of the report still need to be brought to students.

Important issues of concern in the report are:

1. How the program is being advertised to applicants.
2. The need for financial packages to be built into the program.
3. Uneven engagement from faculty.

Nathalie Williams facilitated a discussion of the recommendation to suspend the program. Faculty raised several questions about the long-term reputational effect of suspending the program. Nathalie noted that the message would be carefully communicated to minimize effects on the program's reputation. Some faculty expressed concerns about cuts to programs. Leela Fernandes indicated that there was no predetermined plan to cut any graduate program, and that the graduate reforms committee would move forward in a thoughtful way. An electronic vote link was sent to the faculty to vote on the recommendation.

Faculty discussed the transition to in-person teaching. Preliminary plans that were discussed included the possibility of hybrid meeting options. The need for flexibility was emphasized (including have a back-up plan for teaching online). Faculty discussed concerns about students with visa issues or immunocompromised health who would still require access to online instruction.

Leela Fernandes ended the meeting with thanks to the faculty in outgoing JSIS leadership roles.

- Deborah Porter for her work as Chair of the DEI committee
- Nathalie Williams for her work as Director of PhD Program
- Tony Lucero for his work as Associate Director
- Christian Novetzke for his work as Associate Director

Voting Results:

**Do you support suspending PhD admissions next year, 2021-2022?**

| <b>Vote</b> | <b>Tally</b> |
|-------------|--------------|
| YES         | 27           |
| NO          | 6            |