

Indiana State University

2004 - 2005 Academic Annual Report

Department of Languages, Literatures & Linguistics

Year in Review

Accomplishments

As you have heard, increasing public awareness of Indiana State University's accomplishments is crucial to building student enrollment, influencing policy makers, and developing a place of pre-eminence in the Midwest. What do you consider to be your department's 5-10 top accomplishments for the 2004-2005 year that will help contribute to this effort?

1) The Department continued for the 5th year in a row to increase its enrollments, going from a total of 2,397 in 2003-04 to 2,640 in 2004-2005 (an increase of 243 students). Particularly significant was the growth in our new course in Arabic language and culture, increasing from 3 in year one to 18 in year two. 2) The new undergraduate and graduate certificate programs in Teaching English as a Second language (both of which have very large recruitment potential nationally but especially internationally) were made distance-deliverable during 2004-05. Distance delivery will begin during the next academic year. 3) The Department's contracts for language services for external agencies and businesses increased significantly with 3 completed contracts to businesses (English and German instruction), two negotiated (one for Spanish instruction to a business and one for translation work to a state agency); and continuing dialog with a national publisher for language-related internships for LLL students. 4) The Department recently received a bequest of approximately \$625,000 from the estate of the late professor emerita of German Dr. Charlotte Ghurye. The bequest will fund scholarships for students to study German at ISU and will considerably enhance our ability to attract high caliber students into our undergraduate German program. 5) In conjunction with the Department of Social Work, LLL created an innovative new Minor in LLL for Students in Social Work which will encourage Social Work students to become functional in a another language such as Spanish and to pursue an internship using their language skills. 5) An innovative course in Medical Spanish was designed especially for ISU students in the healthcare professions (nursing, pre-med, and HHP) 6) A national search for a multi-lingual Romance linguist w/expertise in translation was successfully completed. The Department has hired a linguist with considerable expertise in translating for the European Union, and this addition to the faculty will allow LLL to begin to pursue a graduate-level translation track and to begin planning for a Language Services Center. 7) With the addition of its new internship courses (LLL 409 and 709), the Department has begun setting up internship opportunities in language instruction and translation.

Research and Scholarship

What is your assessment of accomplishments in the area of research and scholarship? Are you satisfied overall? In which areas do you feel your department does particularly well? In which areas do you feel your department needs to improve?

1) Correction of data from IFAR database: Books and Monographs 1 Chapters Published/Reviewed 2 Articles Published/Reviewed 7 Creative Works 0 Electronic Media 0 Conference Presentations 35 Art Exhibits/Performances 1 Books and Journals Edited 1 Awards 3 What is your assessment of accomplishments in the area of research...? The Department has performed especially well in terms of conference presentations and workshops but could improve on the number of articles published per year. We would like in particular to publish or present in ways that would help publicize our programs in the Department (see for example the lead article in Foreign Language Annals last year

that focused on our Basic Studies Foreign Language curriculum).

Grants, Contracts & Off Campus Professional Service

What is your assessment of accomplishments in the area of grants, contracts, and off campus professional service? Are you satisfied overall? In which areas do you feel your department does particularly well? In which areas do you feel your department needs to improve?

Faculty in the Department were awarded grants this past year (4 for travel and workshop presentations and one for technological support for curricular innovations). The Department gained 3 external contracts for language training service with a local manufacturing company in 2004-05 year and began negotiations for 2 more with other businesses. It is expected that these will continue to increase in the future, and the Department will seek new leads on external contracts. The Department would like to increase grant activity next year, in particular with a possible Indiana Campus Compact/Scholarship of Engagement Faculty grant.

Best Practices

Describe the progress your unit has made thus far. Were you able to take these steps? What steps or goals have been particularly difficult to achieve and why? What practices, actions, initiatives are you doing that could be considered eminent?

Revision to Best practices above: Increased visibility on campus and across the state; increased number of internships and “non-traditional” study abroad opportunities; also establishment of a translation track at the graduate level and a Language Service Center. Describe the progress your unit has made thus far... We have worked with an outside consultant on a new brochure for the program; begun to market ourselves through the state Foreign Language Teachers Association; begun planning for a poster advertising campaign on campus; created two new internship courses and begun enrolling students in various forms of internship opportunities; and made a recent hire of a translation expert to begin work on a graduate translation track and Language Service Center.

Student Credit Hours

What did you learn? What steps will you take during 2004-05 to meet your department’s student credit hour target by fall 2005?

The Department will explore creation of a Liberal Studies Literature and Life course in the area of world mythology and also investigate other General Education courses in the areas of French, German, Latin, and Spanish

Budget

Identify and describe any collaborative efforts that have been undertaken by your department with other academic or administrative units to maximize resources to meet departmental goals. Please also consider collaborative opportunities with external partners.

LLL collaborated this year with the Department of Social Work to develop a new LLL minor for Social Work students which allows Social Work students to count a Social Work internship conducted in a foreign language towards the LLL minor. The Department was able to attract a visiting Chinese scholar with language pedagogy expertise to offer instruction in Chinese at no cost to the institution.

Outreach

What are the outreach opportunities for your discipline? (non-traditional modes of delivery and timing, etc)

The Department recently made its new Undergraduate and Graduate Certificate Programs in teaching English as a Second language distance-deliverable, and it is expected that these courses will experience welcome growth even within a year's time. Plans are underway for a distance course which will allow ISU students to work on joint projects and share in lectures with students from Hassan II University-Mohammedia in Morocco. The Department brought in 2 international visiting scholars (one from the People's Republic of China and one from Japan), both of whom enhanced LLL student's learning experiences this past year.

Assessment

For each program in the department, provide one or two examples of how the program is using assessment and evaluation (student outcomes, program review, and/or accreditation) to enhance student learning and program strength this year.

French, German, and Spanish Teaching programs assessment and the Praxis test for state teacher licensure have led us to conclude that we will need to specify our 321 courses (Advanced Conversation) as requirements for the BA for those on the teaching track. New LLL 409/709 (undergraduate/graduate) internship courses were officially implemented this year to address the need for documenting internship credit. Also, the assessment process revealed that the course descriptions of the 404/504 (undergrad/grad) courses in both French and Spanish Phonetics needed to be updated and brought in line with each other, and this was accomplished this year as well.

Strategic Initiatives

Development Activities

What steps have you taken to support development activities in your department? How can your efforts be supported?

The Department recently received a bequest of approximately \$625,000 from the estate of the late Professor Emerita of German Dr. Charlotte Ghurye. The bequest will fund scholarships for students to study German at ISU and will considerably enhance our ability to attract high caliber students into our undergraduate German program. The Department is working on two projects for 2005-06: a) a TESL training program for TESL teachers from Argentina, a program which should provide the Department with significant income; b) in conjunction with the College of Education and the East Chicago Indiana Public School System, the possible establishment of scholarship funds for students preparing to teach Spanish or English as a New Language

Experiential Learning

Please provide examples of experiential learning in which your department was engaged in 2004-2005.

Student opportunities for experiential learning have expanded greatly this past year. Students have earned internships credit for teaching language to personnel in local businesses, for providing early childhood language programs to local elementary schools, and for providing translation work for state and local agencies. Additional experiential opportunities for ESL instruction are now available for our TESL students in conjunction with Interlink Language Center on the ISU campus. Also, students in a class on French immigrant literature interacted with French-speaking African and Moroccan students, interviewed French immigrants to Terre Haute, and created a website with their results.

Future Goals

Future Goals

The University is highlighting experiential learning, community engagement, and eminent programs as aspects of our campus that will attract students and resources. How is your department planning to contribute to these strategic initiatives in ways that will help ISU be recognized as a Pre-eminent University?

The Department will continue to expand its language services, particularly in the areas of language training, translation, and cultural expertise to local and state businesses and external agencies. In an effort to increase our ability -- and visibility -- in offering these services, the Department has as goals the following: a) creation of a translation track at the graduate level; b) a needs assessment and feasibility study for establishing a Language Service Center which attracts contracts statewide; c) increased publicity for LLL programs and language services campus-wide and externally across the state