

Kapi'olani Community College
Faculty Senate Action Request - # 1415023 (S. Ford)

Did you request action from a union representative?	If YES, please contact your department or campus union representative.
Is this a personal matter?	If YES, please consider discussing the matter with your supervisor or union representative.
Have you filed a grievance/lawsuit over this matter?	If YES, please allow the grievance process to be completed before the matter is brought to Faculty Senate.
Timestamp in Google Doc:	12/12/2014 15:45:59
Submitted By:	Shawn Ford
UH User Name:	sford
Academic Unit:	LLL
Did you request action from a department head or administrator?	No
Is this a departmental matter?	Yes
Is this a college wide matter?	Yes
Is this a system wide matter?	Yes
Does this matter align with the responsibilities of a Faculty Senate Committee? If YES, which one?	Admission, Academic Standards and Graduation, Curriculum, Professional Rights and Responsibilities
Does this matter align with the College's Strategic Plan? If YES, which one?	KCC Strategic Plan 2008-15 - STRATEGIC OUTCOME D: Globally Competitive and Collaborative Workforce - Address critical workforce shortages and prepare students for effective engagement and leadership in a global environment. Kapi'olani Community College competencies - Study in a selected program KCC General Ed SLOs - Explore and synthesize knowledge, attitudes, and skills from a variety of cultural and academic perspectives to enhance our local and global communities.
Does this matter align with the UH System Strategic Directions? If YES, which one?	Globally Competitive Workforce - To address critical workforce shortages and prepare students (undergraduate, graduate, and professional) for effective engagement and leadership in a global environment.
Is there a relevant deadline for action by the Senate? If you answered YES, please indicate the deadline date:	
Please describe the action requested:	Recognize the field of Second Language Teaching (SLT) as an academic discipline that fits within the framework of liberal arts general education at KCC.
Proposed Recommendation:	Currently, I am having difficulty getting Humanities and Social Sciences faculty to recognize that SLT courses meet diversification hallmarks within these general education areas. I ask that the faculty senate recognize that my field, broadly known as Applied Linguistics, is an internationally recognized discipline that includes sub-disciplines that fall within Humanities and Social Sciences. In other words, I am asking for recognition and legitimacy from my KCC colleagues.

Other:

This fall, I have tried to explain many times by email to faculty, that my field of Applied Linguistics, while relatively young in the academy, straddles two major disciplines: Linguistics (Humanities) and Social Sciences. Please read these descriptions of my field:

"The Department of Second Language Studies at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa is an internationally leading institution in its field. SLS faculty and students examine second language use and learning from educational, linguistic, psychological, sociological, and anthropological perspectives. Faculty expertise in a wide range of research approaches and practice domains offers students exceptional opportunities to pursue their career goals as language professionals and researchers worldwide."

"The Department of Applied Linguistics at Penn State's University Park campus is part of the College of the Liberal Arts. In teaching, research and service, our mission is to advance understandings of language use and language learning from a range of anthropological, sociological, and psychological perspectives."

Oxford University, UK: "Applied Linguistics is an interdisciplinary field which mediates between the theory of language and the practice of language learning. It is also an overarching field that includes Second Language Acquisition (SLA), and as such, can shed light on the teaching and learning of a second or foreign language. The MSc in Applied Linguistics and Second Language Acquisition is a popular course which introduces students to key issues within the field of Applied Linguistics with a focus on topics relating to second language learning. The topics represented within the course draw from some of the related disciplines within Applied Linguistics such as Psycholinguistics, Education (Language Teaching/Learning), Linguistics, and Sociolinguistics."

Courses in my field that focus primarily on linguistic knowledge tend to fall within Humanities. Courses that focus primarily on psychological and sociological processes tend to fall within Social Sciences. This is the case with SLT courses. SLT courses are either linguistic (humanities) or sociological in nature, whether faculty wish to accept it or not.

The SLS Dept. at UH Manoa has undergraduate courses that meet DS and DH requirements because they are either humanities in nature (those courses that focus primarily on Linguistics) or social sciences in nature (those courses that focus primarily on sociology or psychology).

I have been told by faculty via email that my courses are not "full and true" enough to fit within these disciplines. It has also been suggested via email that recognizing my discipline will take away students from other fields and will be competition for other fields within these disciplines. What's going on here? Is this what the college is about? Is this catering to the needs and interests of the students? Or is this just catering to faculty needs? Let the students decide. My field exists. It should be recognized as a discipline within the liberal arts general education at KCC. How would any faculty feel if someone tried to deny that their field is something that they know it to be? Just because my field is relatively new (it has been a distinct field since the 1950s), that doesn't mean it doesn't exist. And it isn't going away. Our chancellor graduated from UH Manoa's Second Language Studies department, and the current UH chancellor is a professor from the same department. Open up and let me in.

Faculty Senate Use Only

Action Taken:

Date:

Outcome:

Date: