**Santa Rosa Junior College**

**Philosophy Staffing Summary - 2015**

# **Positions**

Our Department is requesting two full-time Philosophy Instructor positions. One position was ranked second in the cluster and one was ranked fifth.

# 2**. Current Faculty**

The Philosophy program has four (4) full-time faculty. This September one of the instructors filed the paperwork to begin teaching 80% reduced load starting Fall 2016. She plans to teach half of her classes in Philosophy and half in Religious Studies, and then retire May 2019. Another instructor will begin as AFA’s interim President in Spring 2016, and will be teaching 20% in the Philosophy program. Afterward, he will be returning as DTRC Co-Chair and teaching 80% in the Philosophy Program. The third instructor is in her fourth year of tenure review. The final instructor is the Department Chair, and will reach retirement age within four years.

The Philosophy, Humanities, and Religion Department also has two Humanities Instructors. One of these instructors is in his first year of tenure review; and the other Humanities instructor already is on 80% reduced load and planning to retire after mentoring her tenure-track colleague. Finally, the department has one Religious Studies instructor. He’s been elected President of Academic Senate, and will be teaching 20% beginning Fall 2016.

# **3. Adjunct Faculty**

Presently 62% of our sections are adjunct assignments. With one of our full-time instructors starting 80% reduced load and teaching both Philosophy and Religious Studies, 67% of our courses will be taught as hourly assignments. See Section #4 for more info about the significance of this data.

# **4. Courses, Need, Resources**

In the recent years since three full-time Philosophy Instructors retired at the end of the same year, the Philosophy program has relied on adjunct instructors to teach all sections of the following core course: Phil 4 (Logic), Phil 5 (Critical Thinking for Reading and Writing), Phil 20 (History of Ancient Philosophy), and Phil 21 (History of Modern Philosophy). All of the instructors who teach these courses either are considering retirement or are promising candidates for full-time positions. Further, since May 2014, the program has completed two Philosophy Adjunct searches. Each search added only one adjunct instructor to our pool, who immediately started teaching courses. While we plan another adjunct search this year, the degree to which we rely on adjuncts already is problematic; and, with a full-time instructor starting 80% reduced load and teaching both Philosophy and Religious Studies, the problem is growing.

# **5. Degree and General Education**

Our Philosophy program offers one the most diverse collections of Philosophy General Education courses in the state. All of our courses transfer to CSU and UC. All of our courses but Phil 3 and Phil 4 are reading and writing intensive. They include:

Phil 3 – Critical Thinking

Phil 4 – Logic

Phil 5 – Critical Thinking for Reading and Writing

Phil 6 – Intro to Philosophy

Phil 7 – Contemporary Moral Issues

Phil 8 – World’s Religions

Phil 9 – Political Philosophy

Phil 10 – Philosophy of Peace and Nonviolent Action

Phil 11 – Asian Philosophy

Phil 12 – Environmental Philosophy

Phil 20 – History of Ancient Philosophy

Phil 21 – History of Modern Philosophy

The program has approved the addition of a new course, Phil 13 – Existentialism. However, it seems irresponsible to strain the program further by adding new curriculum at this time. We are requesting our positions in order to recover positions we’ve lost to retirement and continue our dedication to our diverse program.

In addition, by 2022 we expect a 20% increase in national job openings for Philosophy/Religious studies post-secondary educators, which creates an immediate demand for more majors.

# **CTE**

While Philosophy is not a CTE program, we contribute to CTE education in many ways. Our Phil 3 and Phil 5 courses teach valuable informal logic skills that inform scientific methods. Our Phil 6 course typically addresses important theoretical issues that are associated with the materialist assumptions of modern science. Our Phil 7 and Phil 12 courses address ethical issues that arise in contemporary applied sciences.

# **Position Mandates**

N/A