UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Evelyn Alsultany <alsultan@umich.edu>

Arab American Studies questions

5 messages

Nadine Naber <nnaber@comcast.net> Wed, Jun 27, 2012 at 8:55 PM
To: Gregory Dowd <dowdg@umich.edu>
Cc: Evelyn Azeeza Alsultany <alsultan@umich.edu>

Dear Greg,

I hope all is well!

Evelyn and I are writing to follow up on a few conversations related to Arab American Studies. We would like to make a proposal to you and to either ask for your approval or to advice us on when and where any of these issues should be discussed.

Can we formalize officially that Arab American Studies is an Ethnic Studies unit rather than an "emerging" unit. It seems that lately, AC does refer to AAS as an ethnic studies unit. We just wanted to be sure that this was accurate. Of course, the question becomes, what does this mean? For now, we are proposing the following:

(1) We would like our service to AAS to be officially recognized in the list of service assignments and the calculation related to labor/workload in assigning service assignments. This year, since Nadine is on leave in the fall, we could simply list Nadine and Evelyn as co-directors and then later, we can discuss if we should have one person be a director per year. We understand that we would not need the same compensation as other ES units since the workload is less--however, at the least, for now, can we officially have our work with AAS be counted as an AC service assignment (and this year, that would be one assignment split among two people)?

(2) In addition, we would like our Intro course or any other AAS 200 level courses listed on AC documents that include Ethnic Studies courses with the same value (for instance, currently on the teaching preference form, the intro to AAS is not included).

(3) We are not sure about the status of the website and how other ES units are developing their websites. THis is something we would like to learn more about.

(4) We would like to put on the table a conversation among AC about future hiring in AAS as a priority as well as developing an AAS minor. You may or may not have heard about the minor developed at UM Dearborn. Considering our location in the state of Michigan, we are confident that this would be a major plus for our program (not just for the AAS unit). Also, there is great interest among undergraduates in AAS and with just a bit of time, we are confident that we could develop this into something that would really flourish.
http://ur.umich.edu/1112/Feb06_12/3136-um-dearborn-launches-arab

A note on where things are now:
Currently, since our service is not counted, we are finding that we barely have any time at all to devote to AAS. The way things are going, and with the increase in service that takes place at the Associate Professor level, we actually could see things going downhill and AAS sort of diminishing/disappearing. Nadine had this experience last fall when she was unable to devote barely a moment to AAS since it was not one of her service assignments.

Thank you so much for reading this over and everything else that you do! If you think it makes more sense to meet in person, let us know.

Best,

Nadine and Evelyn

Nadine Naber
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Program in American Culture
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Fax: 734-936-1979

Arab America: Gender, Cultural Politics, and Activism

http://nyupress.org/books/book-details.aspx?bookId=6680

Arab and Arab American Feminisms

http://www.syracuseuniversitypress.syr.edu/fall-2010/arab-arab.html

Race and Arab Americans

http://www.syracuseuniversitypress.syr.edu/fall-2007/race-arab-americans.html

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Dowd, Gregory <dowdg@umich.edu> Fri, Jun 29, 2012 at 2:42 PM
To: "Naber, Nadine" <ncnaber@umich.edu>, "Alsultany, Evelyn" <alsultan@umich.edu>

Hi Nadine and Evelyn,
Thanks for everything you have already done here. I certainly understand each point. As you suggest, I'd like to have a conversation with both of you about all of this. Shall I have Mary arrange a meeting?
Best,
Greg

From: Nadine Naber [nnaber@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 27, 2012 8:55 PM
To: Dowd, Gregory
Cc: Alsultany, Evelyn
Subject: Arab American Studies questions

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Nadine Naber IMAP <ncnaber@umich.edu> Fri, Jun 29, 2012 at 2:55 PM
To: "Dowd, Gregory" <dowdg@umich.edu>
Cc: "Alsultany, Evelyn" <alsultan@umich.edu>

Hello Greg,

Thanks for your reply on this. Sure, that works for me.

Best,

Nadine

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Evelyn Azeeza Alsultany <alsultan@umich.edu> Fri, Jun 29, 2012 at 4:47 PM
To: Nadine Naber IMAP <ncnaber@umich.edu>
Cc: "Dowd, Gregory" <dowdg@umich.edu>

Hi Greg,
Thanks for being in conversation with us about this. I am leaving town on Monday and Nadine will be in Egypt for the rest of the year by the time I get back. If you are able to meet with Nadine before she leaves and without me that would be fine. Otherwise we could also do the reverse.
Hope you are well.
Evelyn
[Quoted text hidden]

Dowd, Gregory <dowdg@umich.edu> Mon, Jul 2, 2012 at 7:25 AM
To: "Alsultany, Evelyn" <alsultan@umich.edu>, "Naber, Nadine" <ncnaber@umich.edu>
Cc: "Freiman, Mary" <mlfr@umich.edu>

Hi Nadine,
Any chance you are free tomorrow at 1 pm or 3 pm? Either would be really convenient for me.
Greg

From: Evelyn Azeeza Alsultany [alsultan@umich.edu]
Sent: Friday, June 29, 2012 4:47 PM
To: Naber, Nadine
Cc: Dowd, Gregory
Subject: Re: Arab American Studies questions

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