

Conrad, Catherine M.

From: Schmidt-Cruz, Cynthia
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2011 8:20 AM
To: Brian P. Ackerman; chenjia@udel.edu
Cc: Conrad, Catherine M.; Shenkle, Cynthia W.; steind@UDel.Edu
Subject: RE: Translation Program

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Categories: Purple Category

Dear Brian,

Thank you very much for your detailed explanation of what the proposal for the MA program in Technical Chinese Translation needs to incorporate and clarify. This is very helpful.

Thanks to you and the committee for your careful examination of the proposal and the constructive feedback. We appreciate it!

Best,
Cindy

Cynthia Schmidt-Cruz
Acting Chair, Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures
University of Delaware

From: Brian P. Ackerman [bpa@psych.udel.edu]
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2011 12:06 PM
To: chenjia@udel.edu; Schmidt-Cruz, Cynthia
Cc: Conrad, Catherine M.; Shenkle, Cynthia W.; Brian P. Ackerman
Subject: Translation Program

Dear Jianguo and Cindy,

In this letter I am describing some of the changes you might make to your proposal for a Masters in Technical Chinese Translation, with the goal of making the proposal more complete and stronger. These suggestions came out of our discussions in the meeting of the Educational Affairs Committee of CSA on Monday, March 21. I thank you for attending that meeting and for helping us to better understand the proposal.

I also thank you for the document you provided containing the responses to previous questions of the Educational Affairs Committee. One change that would make your Masters proposal stronger would be to find ways to integrate these responses into the body of your proposal. You must include anticipated size of the program when it is fully operational. I think you said a maximum of 10 students per year, and 20 over two years. I also think it would be useful to make it explicit that the program requires full-time residence at the University and that there is a good possibility of summer funding between years through internships. This kind of detail, I think, could forestall questions about the willingness of any external agency to provide complete Masters funding. Similarly, including other aspects of your document concerning the market and competing programs in the area would help strengthen the motivation for the Masters program.

We also discussed other useful additions to the Masters proposal document. First, it would be helpful if you sketched out aspects of program administration in more detail. These include the idea that the program would be governed by existing rules, practices, and procedures governing the other graduate programs in FLL, and details about minimum grades in courses, retaking courses, and retaking aspects of the final comprehensive exam. The time frame for these details is important. Second, more detail about the logic of course sequencing would be helpful. I refer here to the

discussion of the theoretical framing of some of the more practical courses. Third, how would the Program Director determine levels of student performance in the external Internships (i.e., CHIN 620)?

Finally, we would appreciate more discussion and more detail about the impact of the Masters program on the undergraduate majors in Chinese and Japanese. How many students are in those majors, for example, and how will the Department cover the major courses short-term and long-term? If s-contract faculty will provide the bulk of the coverage, a further question arises about the availability of appropriate faculty resources in the community.

We thank you again for responsiveness in these discussions.

Sincerely,

Brian Ackerman
Professor of Psychology
Chair, Educational Affairs Committee