2014-15 Proposal to Fill a Full-Time Faculty Position (due Fri., Oct 3)

1. Faculty position being proposed
   Full-Time Music

2. Proposal Being Made by (List Name(s) and Title(s))
   Dr. James McManus and Prof. Tim Roberts

3. Summary description of the position
   Instructor with strengths in one or more of the following:
   Bands and Percussion
   World Music
   Choral Conducting

4. Rationale for filling this position: include examples of how this position impacts students, program needs, and college goals
   We are now down to 50% (from 2010) of our optimal and former number (4) of full-time faculty. What’s more, by 2020 our remaining 2 full-timers will be facing retirement themselves. It’s important that we continue the momentum of the department and prepare ourselves for growth in the future.

   The requested position would serve some combination of the following areas of instruction:
   • The Department no longer offers large ensemble instrumental groups (e.g. orchestra, wind ensemble, jazz band, community band). It is necessary to the long-term health of the Department and in the best interests of the College’s public relations efforts that we rebuild the band and instrumental program in an effort to attract and retain traditional – that is, classical or non-commercial – music students.
   • It is part of the Department’s vision that its offerings should include music ensembles of the major ethnic cultures of the Fremont area: Asian, Indian, Hispanic.
   • Vocal music has historically been at the heart of any music program, and Ohlone is no exception. Currently we are without any full-time vocal instructors. A new hire could help revitalize this most central area.
   • The balance within the Department between commercial music, world music and traditional Western music has been disrupted by recent changes in repeatability as well as the faculty vacancies listed above. Ironically, it’s the conventional Western style that’s currently the weakest. It’s extremely important that some new skill sets and renewed energy be brought to the Department through the hiring of an additional full-timer to return us to the hybrid approach that encourages artistic diversity, cultural appreciation and successful career preparation. In other words, we intend to attain Ohlone’s College Goal #1: Through innovative programs and services, improve student learning and achievement.

5. Are there any externally imposed requirements such as a specialized program accreditation that would put this program in jeopardy if a full time position is not filled? If so, please explain.
   Our A.A. degree contains concentrated “tracks” of specialization including Instrumental, Vocal, Piano and Commercial. Without a brass/reeds/percussion instructor and courses in instrumental techniques and performance, our traditional instrumental students cannot satisfactorily complete their A.A. graduation or ADT and 4-year university transfer requirements (for large ensemble and private instrument study). Even for vocational instrumental students who aren’t interested in transfer, we need to offer a more complete and inspiring training experience to prepare them for a performance career.

World Music is a new and exciting area, one that may have widespread appeal to the multi-ethnic makeup of Fremont and surrounding areas. Additionally, a strong, vibrant, innovative
World Music program would help distinguish Ohlone from other local music departments. And, our various tracks of instruction mentioned above all require some classwork in World Music. Vocal classes are basic to our vocal certificates. They also provide much needed practical training for our Theory and Musicianship students.

6. Any other rationale to support the position proposal:

We began the 2009-10 school year with 4 full-time faculty members. As of Fall, 2014 we are working with half that number. This loss has wreaked havoc with our program offerings. We cannot fill the instructional gaps created due to the absence of Phil Zahorsky and Dennis Keller by simply sliding into their roles. We all are specialists in our musical areas, and while Dr. McManus may have great expertise in Music Theory, he is not equipped to conduct the SummerFest musical. Prof. Roberts does outstanding work in a number of performance areas, but he is not the kind of specialist required to lead the Wind Ensemble. Thank goodness for our adjuncts, but they cannot provide the mentoring and inspirational value that would come from an authentic band/orchestra expert.

The remaining questions to be completed by Deans

7. A statement by the Dean of the division housing this position, which includes data, evidence, and analysis.

By some measures, the music department is immense. In any given semester, there are 43 sections. Of those, five sections are stacked with six individual courses representing six skill levels each. That means that the faculty have, with courses not in this semester’s schedule, over 70 individual courses to administer. With the current two-member faculty, that means each of them have over 35 courses to revise and almost that many to assess. Even with four faculty members, the department had trouble keeping up with course revisions. The program review has PSLO’s for at least two specialties: instrumental and choral/vocal. Total enrollments for Fall 2014, post-census, equal 1,469. The workload for this department cannot be sustained with just two full-timers.

DATA SUMMARY:

8. What is the department FTES?

67.36. The reduction in FTES in the last few years can be attributed, significantly, to the loss of repeatability for many classes.

9. What is the ratio of full-time to part-time faculty in the department?

34:66

10. What is the ratio of full-time faculty to department FTES?

34

11. What is the current WSCH/FTEF in the department?

369

12. What is the number of sections taught by full-time faculty and number taught by part-time faculty?

11:61

13. Does the position address an area of growth? If yes, include a three year trend line for FTES.