

## **NOMINEE INFORMATION CHECK LIST - ELECTION TO THE UNDERGRADUATE COMMITTEE OF THE FACULTY SENATE**

**If you wish to accept your nomination to stand for election to the Undergraduate Committee of the Faculty Senate please supply the following information and return the completed form by email to the Faculty Senate office at [fsenate@central.uh.edu](mailto:fsenate@central.uh.edu) by **12:00 p.m. Friday, November 21, 2014**.**

CANDIDATE NAME: María E. Pérez  
COLLEGE: CLASS  
DEPARTMENT: Hispanic Studies Department  
EMAIL: meperez2@Central.uh.edu

Undergraduate classes taught in the last three (3) calendar years: Span. 2605 (Intermediate Honors Spanish 2301-2302), Span 3384 (Introd.to Literature), Span. 1501 (Basic Spanish), Span. 4371 (Techniques of Teaching Spanish), Span. 3339 (Spanish for the Global Professions), Span. 3343 (Spanish for the Health Professions), Span. 3301 (Advanced Spanish Conversation for Critical Thinking), Span. 3311 (Advanced Composition and Creative Writing).

Undergraduate academic programs in which you are actively involved: I have been involved in the development of courses for the new Minor of Spanish for the Global Professions, as well as assisting in coordinating the organization of the different tracks for this Minor: Health, Business and Translation.

Please insert any additional information you believe pertinent.

I am committed to quality undergraduate education, viewed as an active process on the part of the student in which the professor acts a guide to knowledge, to generate questions and promote research. I firmly believe in the students' potential to excel and to have a positive impact on society. I have high expectations of my students, and I am very seldom disappointed.

The recently developed courses for the Minor in Spanish for the Global Professions incorporate cultural awareness, professional etiquette and protocol in addition to the acquisition of target vocabulary, communicative and writing skills for different professional fields. These courses have a service learning

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component where the students are exposed to real language and situations. The students have interacted with Hispanic clients at health fairs where they have provided translation for health professionals, and implemented health promotion modules at a local charter school. Invited guests from the Hispanic professional community have offered a positive role model and have also served as a networking opportunity for future employment. One of the advanced health students is currently conducting a research project on the impact of linguistic and cultural barriers on health disparities, which he presented at the Undergraduate Research Symposium 2014.

Other research interests are centered on the culture of the Caribbean from a transnational perspective. Encompassing literature, film, the visual arts and popular culture, I focus on the points of encounter and departure between similar cultures, the history of migration and the politics of identity that mark the region, topics which are of special interest to my investigations. I participate in academic conferences, where I present on some of the topics described above.

I am particularly interested in interdisciplinary collaboration, knowledge of the Spanish language and culture can support and improve the practice of many other fields including business, health, social services and education. It is a privilege to share the diversity and the richness of the Hispanic language and culture with my students at the University of Houston.



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