

**Liberal Arts Council Meeting
February 14, 2012**

Present: M. Aakhus, T. Bordelon, M. Dixon, J. Evey, R. Gennaro, T. Hunt, I. Phillips, R. Priest, E. Wasserman, K. Waters, B. Christie, C. York, and B. West (for W. Rinks).

I. Minutes

No minutes available for review.

II. Chairs Retreat - T. Bordelon

T. Bordelon announced that the LAC will have a half-day retreat to discuss college's strategic plan on April 17 (Assessment Day). The retreat will start with lunch at noon, and the meeting will begin at 1:00. T. Bordelon will collect departmental mission statements, from which the LAC will draft a college mission statement. College of Liberal Arts goals then will be developed on the basis of the new mission statement. The LAC August retreats will provide opportunities to adjust or change the College's goals annually.

T. Bordelon also announced the Tenure-Track faculty symposium. There will be two ninety-minute sessions on March 21 and 22 from 3:00-4:30. The symposium represents an opportunity for faculty to get together with those who will evaluate them. Its purpose is to help faculty develop a plan as they move towards tenure. M. Aakhus will discuss the process of evaluation and S. Williams will discuss teaching excellence; other speakers will be invited. Chairs are welcome to be a part of this process.

III. Open items from the Chairs

S. Spencer reported that he met with P. Parker (Career Services), who explained that chairs and faculty no longer have access to internship information because the software only allows students to use it. P. Parker will, however, distribute a full spreadsheet with current internship opportunities.

T. Hunt reported on her meeting with M. Linos. She encouraged chairs to send any comments or suggestions on the process to K. Bonnell. I. Phillips asked what is currently the process by which a DE course is approved? M. Linos will develop the process soon after meeting with deans. T. Bordelon also encouraged chairs to meet with M. Linos and discuss the process with her.

K. Waters requested that T. Wilson be invited to a future LAC meeting to discuss marketing.

M. Dixon announced that N. Conner of Indiana Humanities wishes to feature the College of Liberal Arts on the Indiana Humanities web site. Please send any suggestions for possible items of interest to him.

M. Aakhus reported that efforts are underway to develop further contact between USI and New Lanark, Scotland. One student from USI will visit New Lanark this summer; L. Howard and C. Harison will travel there during spring break.

S. Spencer provided a brief update on the search for a director of the Center for Academic Creativity.

M. Aakhus will provide an update on the College's searches at the next LAC meeting.

IV. Announcements

E. Wasserman announced that *The Brothers Size* will be performed tonight (February 14) at 7:30 p.m. in Mallette Studio Theatre. Gerry McIntyre will be the guest director and he is working with three USI students. The show will next travel around the state to various high schools.

The Society for Arts and Humanities' Toast to the Arts will take place on February 24; there will be a preview party on Wednesday February 15.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:47 a.m.