

**Liberal Arts Council Meeting  
April 10, 2012**

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

**I. Honors Day Discussion**

B. Christie initiated a discussion of the 2012 Liberal Arts Honors Day. She outlined several strategies by which to improve the ceremony next spring.

It would be helpful if several other people were involved in the process from the beginning. Each chair, for example, could identify a faculty member to coordinate the awards of a single department. This would provide B. Christie with a contact person in each department. Additionally, administrative assistants could contact recipients and encourage them to attend the ceremony. The Art Department already has its administrative assistant do this and the English Department has a faculty committee for this purpose. Both K. Waters and S. Spencer reported that this procedure has worked effectively. E. Wasserman stated that recipients should be contacted not only by e-mail, but also by letter and telephone call. Some theatre students, he noted, did not attend and had he had a list of those who had not responded to the invitation, he would have contacted them individually. R. Priest also advocated contacting recipients by letter and a mailed invitation. Several added that students must be given a deadline by which to RSVP and if they do not do so, their names will not be read aloud at the ceremony. This will facilitate coordination with donors. I. Phillips added that this would permit better time management of the ceremony. It was also requested that a script be used in future ceremonies so as to ensure the program goes smoothly.

R. Priest suggested that the current ceremony be divided into two ceremonies, one recognizing the recipients of awards and the other scholarship recipients. W. Rinks proposed one ceremony for Arts and Humanities students, one for Social Science students, and another for Communications students. T. Hunt stated that departments could host their own honors ceremonies. She also requested that G. Bryant be invited to a future LAC meeting to discuss Honors Day. All agreed that Honors Day is an event too important not to be planned and organized better.

A decision was reached to establish an ad hoc Honors Day Committee on which each department will have one representative. Chairs were asked to send the names of their representatives to T. Bordelon. This Committee's work will begin early next year. K. Waters asked that this Committee consider moving Honors Day back to the weekend to ensure greater participation and attendance. R. Priest stated the need for nice welcoming remarks, so that the ceremony is not simply a roll call of names. T. Hunt suggested using a PowerPoint presentation with photographs of recipients to accompany the ceremony.

**II. Open Items from Chairs**

E. Wasserman informed the LAC that he will distribute soon a petition for Theatre 153 and he requested that discussion of it be placed on the agenda of the April 24, 2012 meeting.

T. Hunt asked about the History petitions recently endorsed by the LAC and whether or

not they had been forwarded to Dean S. Gordon for his signature. M. Aakhus replied that they had been scanned and forwarded to the Provost's Office.

### **III. Announcements**

S. Rode announced that Dr. W. Robert Connor will present the Liberal Arts Distinguished Scholar lecture tomorrow (April 11) at 6:00 p.m. in Kley Meyer hall.

W. Rinks announced that the Faculty Senate will consider the Proposed University Core Curriculum again at its next meeting on April 13, 2012.

### **IV. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.