

Liberal Arts Council Meeting
March 29, 2011

Present: M. Aakhus, J. deJong, M. Dixon, J. Evey, R. Gennaro, M.T. Hallock Morris, R. Priest, W. Rinks, S. Rode, S. Spencer, E. Wasserman, C. York, and B. Christie.

I. Anthropology Course Petitions

R. Priest opened the discussion of course petitions by identifying the role of archaeology in the study of anthropology. It is a critical element of physical anthropology courses and the same rationale is used for the upper division courses also. The following course petitions were reviewed and approved: ANTH 352, ANTH 354, ANTH 355, ANTH 380, ANTH 390, ANTH 401, ANTH 402, and ANTH 475 which is a capstone for the discipline.

II. Policies and Procedures for Hiring

The Administrative/Faculty Hiring Process Checklist for Search Committees and Deans was shared for discussion. Issues raised include changes in faculty hire policies, recruiting issues (e.g., no funding for moving expenses), length of time for new hires to receive contract, hindrances to minority hiring, delays in advertising for open positions, unnecessary hassles with one-year contracts, too many approval stages, among others. These are serious issues that affect our searches.

III. Service Learning

According to A. Statham, service learning numbers are down and she is requesting updated information from all departments. M.T. Hallock Morris is on the Service Learning committee and reported that these courses are now designated in course schedules.

IV. Honors Day

The Liberal Arts Outstanding Student Award was not given at this year's Honors Day event. The suggestion was made that a nomination form be created for this award.

Final Notes:

At the August LAC retreat, we will work on a strategic plan for the College. S. Spencer offered to share formulas developed by M. Rozewski's office for the new policy on filling retired faculty positions. The Dean encouraged everyone to make points that support the University's strategic plan. This new policy will require long-term considerations for new hires and the core curriculum.

Announcements:

Tuesday, April 12 from 5-8p.m. is Walk a Mile in her Shoes, the Men's March to Stop Rape, Sexual Assault, and Gender Violence. It begins in front of the Liberal Arts building. It is sponsored by several USI and community groups. Silent Witness will take place in conjunction with Walk a Mile in her Shoes. It's a visual installment of life size human figures with stories of domestic violence written on them. It is sponsored by the same groups for walk a mile and funded through an SGA grant through Active Minds.