

**Liberal Arts Council Meeting**  
**October 13, 2009**

**Present:** D. Glassman, M. Aakhus, R. Priest, S. Spencer, R. Gennaro, E. Wasserman, S. Rode, J. Evey, J. deJong, M.T. Hallock Morris, T. Hunt, P. Aakhus, W. Rinks, A. Torres, and B. Christie.

**I. Minutes for Approval 10/6/09** Minutes were approved as amended.

**II. New Liberal Arts Faculty Award**

New this year is the *Bill & Helen Sands Liberal Arts Outstanding Professor Award* made possible through the generosity of LA patron John Lawrence. It will be awarded in the Spring. The Dean created a list of criteria requested by the USI Foundation. Based on discussion, the award will go to a full-time faculty member. Faculty nominations will be submitted to the Dean and nominees will be required to submit their CV and a 500-word narrative addressing their eligibility.

**III. New Liberal Arts Research Award**

College of Liberal Arts Grant Writing Award (CLAGWA) is still being set up; more information will be presented at the Spring meeting. Currently, LA has the lowest amount of external funding at USI. S. Zehr has agreed to be the coordinator for research and grant-writing in LA. This award proposes course release time.

**IV. New Course Petition (THTR 260) and two Undergraduate Program Modification Petitions (Theatre major and Theatre minor)**

After a brief discussion and a suggestion that the course might be eligible for the core curriculum, the changes were approved as requested.

In addition, changes for PSY 303 were approved as requested.

**V. New Course Petition (ANTH 131)**

This petition was delayed until the next council meeting to allow time for review.

The process for curriculum changes was reviewed. New undergraduate courses go to LA department chairs; new graduate courses and new program petitions go to the Dean. All others go to the subcommittee (E. Wasserman, M.T. Hallock Morris and R. Gennaro). The committee will take concerns to the department chair and if not resolved will refer the petition to the LAC. W. Rinks will track approval of program modifications.

**VI. Proposed Summer Schedule**

There is a proposal to change the summer schedule from three to two sessions. Summer I would have a minimum of 4 or maximum of 5 weeks, to be determined by need. Summer II would be 5, 6, or 8 weeks, depending upon the course. All courses will start on the same day. R. Priest noted that this proposal does not include the changes in number of days for fall and winter break that were part of the original proposal, specifically, a 3-4 day weekend in the fall and an extra week for winter break. There has been no consideration regarding the impact of the new plan on classroom scheduling, however, there should be

no schedule overlap with the proposed plan. The Council was generally open to the new plan, if the extra weeks remaining are used to relieve current schedule constraints.

## **VII. Academic Affairs Update**

There was no Academic Affairs meeting this week, but the deans did meet.

Feelings of the Council regarding changes to Orientation Days were mixed, though all agreed that Orientation should not be scheduled on April 16<sup>th</sup> during priority registration.

Liberal Arts will continue to supply Scantron forms, since they are not available in the bookstore. The Council supported students purchasing bluebooks; the issue may come before the Council one more time.

The Office of Academic Affairs expressed their appreciation for the feedback on service learning questions. The Presidential Inauguration is Thursday at 3 p.m. in the PAC. Faculty members should arrive at 1:45 to don robes.

The Counseling Center is asking for suggestions for improving services. Information should be given to the Dean.

Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels will be on campus October 21<sup>st</sup>.

There is renewed interest in discussing campus parking issues.

The USI-Whirlpool connection is moving forward through Extended Services. Departments in LA should forward any ideas to the Dean.

Assessment Day is November 10<sup>th</sup>.

## **Around the Table**

**Psychology-** If anyone has not attended the advising training sessions yet, there are additional opportunities. Have your faculty check their email.

Psychology Club is hosting their annual graduate school talk, Thursday, October 29, 4:30 p.m. in LA 1004. All majors are welcome.

**Political Science and Public Administration** - The USI Political Science Society and the Pre-Law Club are sponsoring a talk by Charles Wiley on the power of the media, news bias and the need for objective reporting on Tuesday, October 13. The talk will be at 4:30 p.m. in LA 1004.

**Interdisciplinary Studies-** The "Islands" Colloquium on Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, was very successful despite the inclement weather.

**Art** - R. Millard-Mendez and three of his advanced woodworking students have work in a national juried exhibition, "Small Spaces, Big Creations" at the Sixth Street Gallery in Vancouver, Washington.

X. Hu's poster design "Thousands of Years of Time and Space", was published in *Package & Design* magazine, Sept. issue.

A. Kosten has work in Secret Drawing Society Invitational Drawing Exhibition at the Croft Art Gallery in Waco, Texas.

**Performing Arts** - Brandon Eck and Jeffrey Dumond have been nominated for the Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship Competition of the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival by the KCACTF Selection Committee respondents who came to evaluate the production for possible inclusion in this year's regional festival in Saginaw, Michigan. They are invited to participate in the first round of competition, also held in Saginaw, early in January 2010.

**Philosophy**- M.L. Stoll has a publication in a peer reviewed on-line journal:  
"Fishing for Sustainability" *Between the Species* Issue IX August 2009 <http://cla.calpoly.edu/bts/>

**Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice Studies**- The Berger Lecture Series will present Dr. Cynthia Duarte, a Fellow of the Institute for Latino Studies, University of Notre Dame. Her presentation, entitled *Latino Immigration in the U.S. Today*, will take place on Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in Mitchell Auditorium.

**English**- A new novel by N. Reid will be published by Rocksaw Press in October.

An article by P. Shaw has been accepted for publication in PM.L.A, the journal of the Modern Language Association. This is the most important journal in the discipline.