

## Liberal Arts Council Meeting November 3, 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 from 10/20/09 for Approval**

After a brief discussion, the minutes were approved as amended.

### **II. Academic Planning Calendar Meeting**

The Master of Arts in Communications has moved forward. The proposed BA/BS in Arts Heritage Management has not moved past the initial approval. Initial approval for the BA/BS in Anthropology will be requested for Spring 2010. A doctoral program in Physical Therapy also received initial approval.

### **III. Class Rosters for First Class**

Liberal Arts will request rosters for all faculty for the Spring 2011 semester for the last time. Faculty members will be responsible for obtaining their own class rosters after the spring semester.

### **IV. Student Orientation**

There will again be only three orientation days rather than the proposed six. None of the three days will conflict with priority registration.

### **V. LA Department Web Pages**

There is a unit on campus to help with web page design. Departments can request that a designer create a website which the webmaster regularly updates; consult both the designer and webmaster to ensure updates will occur smoothly. Chairs and directors should review current websites to make sure all information is up to date.

### **VI. LARA Recipients**

Thirteen proposals were submitted, the most ever. All applications were from junior faculty members. The four recipients are N. Banerjea, W.R. Mack, J. Schuster, and M. Rothwell. The competition was very close and all submissions were good. The due date for summer fellowship proposals was November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Requests for sabbaticals should be in by November 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **VII. Write Path Initiative**

This initiative was announced in the fall LA Council meeting. Members are S. Spencer, P. Shaw, E. Hawkins, E. Wasserman, B. Posler, B. Broshears, and D. Odney. Two issues being addressed are 1. resources are necessary to establish a well-equipped writing center for students: freshman through graduate level, and; 2. the development of a strong assessment strategy. The goal is to create a shared vision of the importance of writing across campus and sharing the responsibility for teaching USI students to be good writers in all areas. This is a major University initiative.

### **VIII. Major as Home Initiative**

Proposals were due last Friday. All departments have planned an event; please invite the LA Deans. This initiative was very successful last year and will continue.

### **IX. Academic Affairs**

No meeting this week, but some announcements:

The Theatre Design Committee met with the architects last Wednesday. All plans are

on schedule with ground-breaking set for 2011 and the opening in 2013.

Some students are complaining that teachers are not using BlackBoard. Should LA have a policy in place regarding use of BlackBoard for classes?

## X. Around the Table

**Psychology** B. Raulerson will present "Measuring Working Memory Capacity Using Repetition Priming of Words" at the Crick Lecture Series at the University of Evansville on Wednesday, November 11 in the Vectren Lecture Hall, Room 100, in the Koch Center for Engineering and Science, from 4:00-5:00 p.m.

**History** In October, the Willard Library hosted two presentations by History Department faculty.

- C. Harison presented "Paris from the French Revolution to Today" which used photos and prints that showed how political events shaped the growth of the "City of Light."
- D. Pitzer, Professor Emeritus, presented "Messages and Images from Communal Utopias" which show how historic and contemporary communal living presents solutions for many current problems.

D. Scavone, Professor Emeritus of the History Department presented "The Myth of the Vampire" to the USI Medieval Studies Forum in October.

T. Hunt attended the 15<sup>th</sup> Sloan Consortium International Conference on Online Learning in Orlando, Florida.

**Communications** This past week USI RTV major Ben Weber took first place in the College Broadcasters Inc. Radio PSA competition for a PSA titled "Recycling." He has won 3 national awards and several state competitions for his copywriting and audio production.

Journalism major Lana Kunz, opinion editor of the *Shield*, and intern at the *Courier and Press* has been named a finalist in the 2009 Indianapolis Press Club Foundation Tom Keating Feature Writing Competition.

Journalism Instructor E. Gibson attended the College Media Advisors National Convention in San Antonio October 29 and 30 and she has just been selected to join the 2010 Class of Connect with Southern Indiana.

**Political Science and Public Administration** M.T. Hallock Morris (Political Science), Elissa Bakke (Center for Applied Research), Cynthia Forgie (Engineering), and Marco Lara Gracia (Engineering) presented the Metropolitan Evansville Transit System Efficiency Study to the Evansville Board of Public Works on Thursday, October 22, 2009. This presentation was the outcome of 18 months' worth of work and started as a service learning project last fall in Dr. Hallock Morris' Political Inquiry I course. The project involved 34 students in the political science course, as well as three graduate research assistants from the MPA program (Linda Bailey, Mandi Fulton, and Zachary Heronemus) and two undergraduate interns (Janis DuBois and Jessica Lantaff). USI has been invited to continue its study for the next 18 months; the primary investigators – Hallock Morris, Forgie, Lara Gracia, and K. Leahy Hein (adjunct in Political Science) – will be outlining the scope of the new project in November.

**Performing Arts** Xmas Carol opens next Thursday, November 12. Its director, L. Leibowitz, will appear as Scrooge for three of the performances, November 18, 19, and 20th.

**Department of Modern and Classical Languages** Computers in the Miller Languages Laboratory have been outfitted with Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Japanese, and Spanish keyboards.

**Art** C. Roth has work in "Digitized 2009", a juried exhibition in Evansville, Indiana.

J. Uduehi and Art Education adjunct instructors Roger Sills and Karen Stansberry are presenting the 10th Annual Children's Art Workshops on Oct. 31 and Nov. 7. This year 105 elementary and art education majors and 41 children from the community are participating in the workshop.

The Senior Seminar Exhibition opens next Monday, Nov. 9, 2009 in the McCutchan Art Center/Pace Galleries. Fifty art majors are participating in this senior exhibition. The opening reception will be on the following Sunday, Nov. 16 from 2-4 p.m.

On Tuesday, Nov. 3, a representative from the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum in New York City is meeting with the Art Department design faculty, J. deJong, X. Hu, and C. Armstrong, to learn more about the design program at USI.

**Philosophy** The Community of Scholars Lecture by Dr. Colin Allen (IU-Bloomington) entitled "Moral Machines" will be on Thursday November 19th at 6pm in Kleymeyer.

**Center for Interdisciplinary Studies** P. Aakhus gave a paper "Sirius Rising 139 AD: Hadrian, Tivoli and the Tazza Farnese" at the Institute of Arts and Letters, Venice, University of Padova, on October 19, 2009, an interdisciplinary conference of astronomy, history, art, and literature, celebrating the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Galileo's use of the telescope.