

**Liberal Arts Council Meeting
November 17, 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, and B. Christie.

Absent: A. Torres

Guests: College of Business Dean M. Khayum and Instructor B. Bourdeau

Announcement:

All three candidates for Provost have been to campus and the Deans will submit evaluations by Friday. D. Glassman encouraged council members to directly submit their comments as well.

I. Approval of Minutes from November 3, 2009 Minutes approved with corrections.

II. Faculty Searches

Liberal Arts currently has 14 faculty searches in progress. Email intentions to the Dean for continuing these searches in relation to the Christmas break. To request candidates campus visits, you need **original** documents for all candidates- letter of interest, cv, signed USI application form (unless it is an electronic search), official or unofficial graduate transcript (official transcript will be required to hire), and three (3) reference summaries, one of which must be from candidate's current supervisor. An exception can be requested; however, if the candidate is selected, we must have a reference from the current supervisor before the hire will be completed. All candidates for the same position should be interviewed either before or after the break. Maintain confidentiality. Schedule meetings with both M. Aakhus and D. Glassman for each candidate.

III. Budget Update

The projected .3% increase in the state budget for the new fiscal year may not be possible. Indiana has not been meeting expectations for state funding. One-time expenses might get funded; however, there will likely be no new positions nor accelerated budget projections. The dean recently attended a conference in Baltimore that found serious budget cuts in universities across the country, including lost positions.

IV. Entrepreneurial Minor

Dean Khayum and B. Bourdeaux presented a plan for a minor in Entrepreneurial Business for non-Business Majors which was well-received. Research shows that 75% of all entrepreneurs have a Liberal Arts background. The minor is 18 hours, 9 of those will come from the student's major. The only pre-requisite to begin the business courses is junior standing. This model is similar to other schools.

V. Distance Education

LA is making significant progress in the use of distance education courses; every distance education course fills. D. Willet reports that online courses are equally successful in outcomes as classroom courses. The Dean asked LAC members to monitor the distance vs. classroom issue to determine the most effective method for LA.

There is another Summer Distance Education Institute planned for 2010. Stipends are available for

registration. Those who attend are obligated to develop a distance education course and teach it in the next year. There is an E-fact review being developed.

VI. Honors Day

As a reminder, Honors Day will follow a different format in 2010. The logistics have not been finalized. This is an experiment as an alternative to the traditional LA Honors Day event. J. Evey will send out the floor plan set-up for discussion in next week's meeting.

Around the Table

Communications - Some 135 students from 9 area high schools were on the USI campus Friday for High School Media Day.

G. Cooper took 5 students to the Public Relations Student Society of America Convention in San Diego.

Cooper and M. B. Reese took 11 students to the "PRSSA Half-Day with a Professional" In Indianapolis.

K. Bonnell, L.A. Howard, and Z. Henning participated in the National Communications Association meeting in Chicago.

W. Rinks attended round-two of the "Ivy Tech Academy for Academic Excellence" Thursday and Friday at Spring Mill State Park.

History - M. Grow, Director of the Center for Communal Studies, attended the International Symposium on "Cultural Landscapes, Cultural Towns" held in New Harmony November 10 – 13. The Center for Communal Studies was the co-sponsor of one of the speakers at the symposium.

J. Hardgrave presented "Venice and the Virgin: the Use of Public Art to Project Power and Purity" at the Historic Newburgh Kiwanis meeting in early November.

Phi Alpha Theta, the History Honor Society, hosted a "Graduate School Information night" that provided student attendees with information on programs in history, library science, public administration, and archeology. About 20 students attended.

Phi Alpha Theta also hosted a separate initiation of new members on November 13 at Biaggi's restaurant. Eight new members were inducted.

Rocky Brown (History, '07) is now the full-time naturalist at the Interpretive Center at Deam Lake State Park in Borden, IN; he is currently the only full-time naturalist in the division and is responsible for managing the Interpretive Center at the park and interpreting the natural and cultural history of the area to park visitors.

T. Hunt served as a judge for the regional competition of the state-wide contest for middle and high school students' knowledge of the Constitution, called "We the People."

A student symposium "Remembering Soldiers: Past, Present and Future" was held to commemorate Veteran's Day on November 9. Students Josh Orem, Elizabeth Kirsch, Mark Ota and JR Jeffries from M. Grow's History 398 course, "War and Memory in American History" course presented their independent research. Amber Gosch, Katie Warren, Lyndsee Priest, and Jon Thompson, students from Communication Studies 414 "Oral Traditions" taught by L.A. Howard, performed portions of oral interviews they have done with veterans. Jason Jolley, current president of the USI Student Veteran's organization and Political Science major concluded by reflecting on his four years of service in the artillery, and his one-year deployment to Ar Ramadi, Iraq.

Psychology - Psychology is working with Pam Doerter, Career Coordinator in Career Services & Placement, to present a session about job search strategies for Liberal Arts majors. It is tentatively planned for Thursday, February 11 at 4:30 p.m. The timing will also help our students better prepare for the next CareerLINK job fair on February 24. The plan is to turn this into an annual event.

Modern and Classical Languages - The Language Honor Society Alpha Mu Gamma hosted a bake and book sale.

November 11th the French Club hosted its annual dinner at O'Bannon Hall.

November 11th, Silvia Rode gave a talk on the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall at the University of Evansville.

Philosophy - On Saturday 11/14, Dr. Garret Merriam accompanied the Ethics Bowl team to Marian College in Indianapolis for this year's competition. The student team members were: Justin Dumond, Joseph (Clay) Moore, and Shayne Collier.

Art - R. Millard-Mendez will present "Tragicomic Contraptions" at the CLA Colloquium on Friday, November 20, in LA 0101 at 3:30pm.

A. Kosten has work in the juried exhibition "(S)edition: Printmaking as Activism" at the Urban Institute for Contemporary Art in Grand Rapids, MI.

J. Uduehi presented a paper "Service Learning in Art Education" at the Art Education Association of Indiana Conference in Indianapolis on Nov. 13.

R. Millard-Mendez, C. Armstrong, S. Bielski, and A. Kosten took around 40 art students to Chicago from Nov. 6-8 to attend the annual SOFA Exhibition/Conference and to visit the Art Institute of Chicago and other art galleries.

Dean's Office - M. Aakhus reported that recipients of the CLAFDA have been notified and that information will be emailed to the chairs and directors.

The McCutchan Art Center/Stephen Pace Gallery hosted the USI International Students reception. Also, the Senior Art Exhibit at the Art Center was very successful.