

Liberal Arts Council Meeting
December 8, 2009

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

I. Minutes for Approval 12/1/09 - The minutes were not available.

II. Classrooms and Technology

USI Deans agree that classroom technology updates are needed in areas all across campus. Instructional Technology has reinstated the update schedule and has listed rooms to be updated using a rating system with number one being most urgent to two and three in the queue. The LAC has several rooms that are on the #1 list. Rooms in the OC are still low priority. The Dean requested that all council members send him their recommendations for technology set-up in their designated rooms.

III. Core Curriculum

At the Friday meeting of the Core Curriculum Committee the course, *The History of Schooling from the 1600's*, presented by the College of Education, was approved. There was discussion among council members regarding the purpose of the core curriculum. A thorough examination of the University Core Curriculum will take place in the coming year. Departments should be reviewing their core courses now, including the importance of learning outcomes in core courses in Liberal Arts.

IV. Financial Situation in Indiana

Higher education should expect budget cuts in the next two and a half years, although there have been no specifics announced. Liberal Arts will be monitoring the College budget very closely. The Dean assured Council members that he will keep them updated as he receives information and that they should also reassure their faculty members.

VI. Honors Day No update was available at this time.

VII. Spanish Course and Curriculum Petitions

Continued from 12/1/2009 meeting - SPAN 304 was renumbered as SPAN 265 and was approved. Other courses that were approved at this meeting are SPAN 308, SPAN 275, SPAN 332, SPAN 333, and SPAN 335. The approval of SPAN 325 was tabled.

AROUND THE TABLE

Dean's Office -

*Commencement is Saturday at 12:15 p.m. All Department Chairs and Program Directors are required to attend.

* Give all faculty members a pat on the back and remind them that all finals must given on schedule and that grades are due by 10 a.m. on Tuesday after finals week.

Communications -

*E. Gibson reports that *The Shield* received two awards on Saturday from the Hoosier State Press Association:

Editorial/Opinion Writing First Place for, "[Staff Editorial: Our assessment of the USI Board of Trustees and Linda Bennett.](#)"

Sports Writing Third Place for Lindsey Ziliak's "[Tyson inspires USI student.](#)"

*J. Morris's RTV student radio drama aired Saturday and Monday on WSWI and WPSR-FM.

*D. Black's RTV students' production of USI's basketball game against Bellarmine last Thursday will be shown on WTSN-TV.

International Studies -

Six students have received USI Endeavor Grants to do research at museums in Oxford and London, Summer 2010, in a CINS Study Abroad program: Heather Manley, Alex Love, Amanda Turner, Walker Byer, Nick Yehl, and Traci Johnson.

Art -

*X. Hu's book design for *Gestalt Theory in the Art of Chinese Cut-Paper* (also written by X. Hu) won an award from "PRIME" AIGA Indy Design Awards and was exhibited at the Dean Johnson Gallery in Indianapolis.

*L. Dowhie is repairing three Picasso ceramic works.

*S. Bielski had her work Blacktop / Greentop accepted in the Juried Fine Arts 2010 at the Mills Pond House Gallery in New York from Dec. 21, 2009 to Feb. 6, 2010.

Philosophy -

*R. Gennaro recently signed a contract with MIT Press for his current book manuscript entitled *Consciousness, Concepts, and Higher-Order Thoughts*. He expects to finish work on the book in 2010 and that it will be published in 2011.

Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice Studies - Students decked faculty halls and gifted food. Majors as Home grows stronger.

Modern and Classical Languages - The MCL Sing-Along was attended by 500 students.

Psychology – The Department received a major as home initiative grant.