

Liberal Arts Council Meeting
January 19, 2010

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. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from 12/1/09 and 12/8/09 were reviewed and approved as amended.

II. Registration and Enrollment Debrief and Comments

The light turnout indicates that one Dean, one Chair, and Arlene each night can cover late enrollment. Departments should closely monitor enrollments to identify which courses fill quickly and those which don't make minimum enrollment numbers. Raising class caps should also be carefully controlled. Meeting the needs of students should be the primary goal.

Spring enrollment for USI was up more than 4%. Classroom space continues to be a scheduling issue.

III. Communications– Priority Budget Request – 1. Conversion of Contract position to tenure-track Assistant Professor of Communications Studies.

IV. Interdisciplinary Studies – Priority Budget Request – 1. Full-time Contract faculty position for Humanities; 2. Full-time Contract faculty position for International Studies – needed to strengthen major as home.

All remaining departments will present budgets at the next meeting, January 26th.

V. College Space Issues

Liberal Arts will eventually have the entire Tech Center to accommodate the departments of Art and Performing Arts. The current proposal involving the Orr Center has LA taking possession of the east side of the OC third floor by late summer. The Dean suggested moving entire departments rather than assigning random offices. He asked all chairs to consider the practicality of relocating their departments. Administration has agreed to provide new paint and carpet, if needed, but there will be no major remodeling. Departments who make the move will be responsible for packing and unpacking the offices, but Physical Plant will provide the boxes and move them. The Administrative Assistants will also undergo some reassignments according to which departments move. The Dean asked for input from the Chairs and Director by the end of the week.

VI. Fall Break

Academic Affairs is discussing changes in the Fall semester to provide a fall break. LAC members discussed alternatives to the two day break in mid-October currently under discussion.

VII. Spanish Course/Curriculum Changes – tabled due to lack of time.

VIII. Honors Day Set-up

Chairs are to return rankings for the LA Award for Excellence by Friday. Proposed changes to the Honors Day event are as follows:

- A temporary change in department order by placing them in divisions.
- One individual will announce student names, department chairs will hand out awards and M. Aakhus would escort students to meet with donors.
- All students from each department would come forward together and step forward to receive awards.
- Students' names and hometowns will be listed in the program.
- All student names will be read whether in attendance or not.
- Students will not register as they arrive.
- Donors will register and be acknowledged.
- Chairs and Director will be seated on stage.

IX. Toast to the Arts

The USI Society for Arts & Humanities provides funding for many LA students. The Chair of the Board for the Society asked that all departments who receive funding for their students please attend to give donors a chance to meet chairs and directors personally.

X. Dean's Announcements

* Liberal Arts departments who have academic reviews in 2010 are

Performing Arts, Psychology, and Sociology. Art is also working on the self-study for accreditation, with the review in Fall 2011.

*February 1st is the deadline for submissions for the alumni research awards, including the faculty recognition and research awards.

*USI will be participating in the College Extreme Makeover, a course redesign project with NCAT.

*Honor student criteria issues are currently under discussion in the faculty senate and administration. They are discussing whether only grades from USI should be counted when determining honors.

XI. Around the Table

Philosophy

*R. Gennaro presented "Conceptualism, HOT Theory, and the Richness Argument" at the Eastern Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association in New York City, December 28, 2009.

Art

*S. Bielski has work in *National Art Exhibition 2010* at the Visual Arts Center in Punta Gorda, FL.

*M. Aakhus, C. Armstrong, S. Bielski, J. deJong, L. Dowhie, D. Huebner, X. Hu, A. Kosten, R. Millard-Mendez, C. Roth, and K. Waters have work in "Recent Work from USI Faculty" an invitational exhibition at The Krempp Gallery at the Jasper Arts Center in Jasper, IN from January 6-31, 2010.

*NASAD Consultant, Sharon Hunter, was on campus on Dec. 3 and 4 to review the Art Department and consult on the accreditation process. The National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD) is the national accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education for schools and programs that offer art and design and art and design-related disciplines.

History

*T. Hunt and Scott Myerly are the authors of an article "Why John Bull Did Not Volunteer" that appeared in the most recent issue of *The Trafalgar Chronicle*, a British journal focusing on scholarship of issues during the Napoleonic War.

*J. Hardgrave chaired a session at the national Phi Alpha Theta conference in San Diego.

Political Science and Public Administration

*P. Raymond, W.R. Mack, and M.T. Hallock Morris served as moderators for this year's Candidate School held on January 15, 2010. The event was sponsored by The Chamber of Commerce of Southwest Indiana and USI's Extended Services. Other moderators included B. Posler, Assistant Provost and Associate Professor of Political Science, and Steve Schaefer, an alumnus of the MPA program and Vice President of Public Policy for the Chamber of Commerce.