

LAC Meeting Minutes January 27, 2009

Present: D. Glassman, M. Aakhus, J. Palladino, S. Spencer, E. Wasserman, S. Rode, J. deJong, R. Priest, P. Aakhus, T. Hunt, W. Rinks, and A. Torres

Absent: J. Evey and B. Christie

Guest: Brian Posler

I. **Approval of Minutes**

No minutes were available for approval.

II. **Living Learning Communities**

B. Posler attended the LAC meeting to discuss the LLC program. LLC has been an initiative for the past several years. Each LLC has an academic coordinator who chooses a cluster of courses the students will take together. The current LLCs include Teacher Education, Business, STEM (Science & Engineering), Nursing and Health Professions, Honors, Global Community, Emerging Leaders, and starting in fall, Liberal Arts, Exploring Majors, Undecided, and Social Work. M. Felton is heading the Liberal Arts LLC. Jeff Thomas runs the Teacher Education floor and is also the overall academic coordinator for the program. LLCs are currently limited to freshmen, but the program is looking to expand to a program for sophomores. Those interested in developing a LLC course tied to a program should talk to J. Thomas; there is a \$750 stipend available for course development and planning if the course is structurally tied to the LLC's theme. The Registrar's office automatically signs a LLC student up for the block courses and then students are responsible for adjusting schedules based on conflicts with other courses needed by the student. LLC students have a higher retention rate than non-LLC students. Typically the Honors' floor fills by March for the following fall. Some of the other LLCs do not fill until August. The program is not expanding at this time; however, chairs should contact LLC coordinators if there are classes the departments can fit to the theme.

III. **Student Awards Committee Update**

T. Hunt stated that the college needs to have established deadlines and greater clarity on how the process works. The Dean would like the committee to write up some proposed recommendations for changing the process for the LAC to review. It was suggested that December 1st be the deadline for all award applications and that there be a checklist for all requirements of the award. It was agreed that copies of the student's transcript need to be attached to all applications. Once we have developed the criteria, the information will be posted on the Liberal Arts website under both the student and the faculty sections.

IV. **LA Budget Priorities**

The Chairs ranked the budget proposals; these were tallied and are ranked below. The Deans will prioritize them next using this feedback.

- 1) SAC - Assistant Professor of Cultural Anthropology
- 2) ART - Tenure-Track Assistant Professor of Art (Photography)
- 3) CINS - Full-Time Instructor Position in Humanities

- 4) MCL - Multi-Lingual Instructor (Arabic/French/Spanish/Introduction to International Studies)
- 4) POLS - Assistant Professor of Political Science
- 6) PERF - The Repertory Project
- 7) HIST - Tenure-Track Assistant Professor of Asian History
- 8) PHIL - Instructor in Philosophy
- 9) ENG - Three-year Renewable, Contract Instructor in English/Humanities
- 10) COM - Communications Hardware: Mobile News Packs, Studio Classroom Equipment & Teaching Laptop Computers
- 11) PSY - Recording Equipment

V. Academic Affairs Update

Academic Affairs did not meet yesterday.

Wrap Up

D. Glassman announced that USI is offering the USI Summer On-line Institute for faculty interested in developing a distance education course. Interested faculty need to contact Dana Willett as soon as possible because the set deadlines for signing up for the course have already passed.

Remind search committees to please be mindful of costs when taking candidates to dinner. The purpose of the dinner is community, not to take the candidate to the best restaurant in Evansville. Encourage the search committees to enjoy the meal but keep the costs reasonable.

Around the Table

History Department

The Lincoln Symposium will be held tomorrow in Carter Hall.

Dean's Office

This Saturday night is the Toast to the Arts. It is the largest single fundraiser for Liberal Arts.