

Liberal Arts Council Meeting

March 18, 2008

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

Guests: Dominic Micer, Assistant Professor of English; Patrick Shaw, Director of Composition; and Bob West, Director of LIBA

I. Course Petitions for ENG 319 and ENG 419

Prof. Wasserman motioned that ENG 319 be taken off the table and was seconded by Dr. Palladino. Dominic Micer and Patrick Shaw addressed issues concerning duplicity of the two courses and the use of a RISC activity in ENG 319. The option of repeating the course was also discussed. Dr. Priest moved to approve ENG 319 provided that the course not be repeatable and that the RISC assignment not be the solitary focus of student activity and evaluation. Prof. Wasserman seconded the motion. The motion to accept ENG 319 with the stated modifications was approved.

Dr. Priest moved to approve ENG 419 with changes in the course description and limits of repeatability. Prof. Wasserman seconded the motion. Dr. Shaw indicated that in order for ENG 419 to remain consistent with other English courses, it would be repeatable for up to 6 hours. The motion to accept ENG 319 pending a change to the prerequisite, corrected description, addition of a database list to the syllabus, and the limiting of repeatability to 6 hours was approved.

II. Course Petitions for LIBA 497 The Holocaust

Bob West withdrew the approval request for LIBA 497. He sought the assistance from the chairs as to whether or not this course could be modified to fit previous concerns. Discussion followed.

III. Course Petition for THTR 490

THTR 490 had previously been submitted as an "X" course. Prof. Wasserman will seek approval for THTR 490 at the next LAC meeting. He plans to allow the course to be repeated up to three times.

IV. Salary Spreadsheet Instructions

Dean Glassman will be distributing salary spreadsheets this week. Increases are based on a 4% salary merit pool. There are to be no across-the-board raises as increases are based 100% on merit. Any faculty member who is recommended for a merit increase of less than 1% or greater than 7%, will need a written justification from the chair. After the department spreadsheet is completed, the chair will meet with the dean to discuss the recommendations.

As a reminder, chair's FARs and administrative accomplishments were due on Monday.

V. Academic Affairs

A search for a new Director of the Honors Program will soon open. The Director will be assigned a 10-month appointment with 3 hours of release time allotted in the fall and spring semesters.

Nominations are now being accepted for the Lee Cooper Core Curriculum Teaching Award. The winner will receive a stipend and will be asked to give a university presentation on teaching.

Advisors should be aware that USI and Vincennes University have joined together in an initiative whereby students can dual enroll in both institutions. Students will generally take their first 60 hours at VU and the remainder of their degree hours at USI. These dual-enrolled students are not considered transfer students when being advised.

The Excellence Through Engagement grant awarded to USI has allowed 34 junior faculty to receive Summer Research Fellowships. The university deans are requesting that the program be continued after the grant expires.

University Division is interested in offering freshman seminar classes that will be available to all freshman on a voluntary basis. Currently, UD offers 1-hour freshman seminar classes solely to students enrolled in UD classes.

A 1-year term position for a faculty member to serve on the Honors Faculty Council is available. The dean asked the chairs for nominations.

The chairs were reminded to send nominations to the dean for the Faculty Advising Workshop that is to be held this summer.

VI. Around the Table

PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE, PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION – (Evey) MT Morris is the editor of the *Indiana Journal of Political Science*. She is being assisted by USI student J. Robert Shrode who serves as editorial assistant. Dr. Stephen Bennett and Uisoon Kwon published articles in the most recent issue of the *IJPS*.

COMMUNICATIONS – Dave Black made two presentations at the 2008 Indiana Association of School Broadcasters High School Conference and Competition, held in Indianapolis last week.

The 14th annual USI/Boy Scout Merit Badge Seminar (with around 600 participants) was held at USI on Saturday, February 16, 2008. E. Gibson, instructor of journalism, taught the Journalism Merit Badge, the first time this class has been offered at the USI seminar.

ART – R. Millard-Mendez will have his work showcased in peer juried exhibitions in Oklahoma and Vermont.

Art students Deborah Ball and Brock Flamion had pieces chosen for the juried International Arts Exhibition “Feats of Clay” in San Francisco.

SOCIOLOGY – Last year’s and this year’s recipients of the Academic Achievement Awards in the Sociology Department were accepted to all of the graduate schools they applied.

PERFORMING ARTS – Dan Craig’s musical group Rowan Tree will join the USI choir in a performance of traditional Irish music tonight at 7 pm in the Rice Library second-floor reading room.

Prof. Wasserman accepted a directing contract for “Damn Yankees” to be staged in Forth Worth, Texas. Lou Diamond Phillips will be playing the devil.

D. Hubbell was involved in holding a workshop for the Boy Scouts at the 14th annual USI/Boy Scout Merit Badge Seminar.

MODERN & CLASSICAL LANGUAGES – The Language Bowl will be held on April 16th.