

Liberal Arts Council Meeting

April 29, 2008

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

Guest: C. Harison for History, A. Statham, Visiting Professor of Sociology & Director of Service Learning

I. Service Learning

A. Statham discussed the Service Learning Inventory compared to the Engagement Inventory. Statham's role is to help determine how a project can be geared toward scholarship. She will assist in getting clients and is gathering information to develop a University policy to define service learning. Service learning is an initiative of the University and the College supports it, but it is not mandatory.

Service - faculty gives and the community benefits

Engagement - faculty, USI and community all benefit

Service Learning - constituents, students, and faculty benefit

II. LA May Graduates

The CLA had 275 students graduate this May; breakdown by department was given.

III. Summer Chair Responsibilities

Chairs are on a 10 month contract with the 10th month's duties spread over various responsibilities during the summer. The chairs are responsible for 20 days. 8 of the 20 days are orientation dates. If the chair has travel plans or educational trips scheduled during the orientations, it is the chair's responsibility to find coverage, however, chairs should miss no more than 1 day of orientation. There will be 2-3 LAC meetings over the summer. Occasionally the Provost will host a workshop for the chairs that would be required. The other days are for the chairs to be on campus to handle chair responsibilities and talk to students. The chairs need to give the dean and the AAs a schedule for the summer. The annual Chair's Retreat will be on Friday, August 22nd. Chairs are eligible to teach up to 2 classes (6 hours) during the summer.

IV. College Faculty Searches

Last year we had 18 searches and this year we have 16 with some ongoing. We have 3 retirees next year – S. Darrell, D. Hubbell, and T. Huerta. We will have a reception in the fall.

CLA consistently has the highest costs per search of all the colleges; be considerate of the costs involved and try to minimize them as best possible. We did approve some candidates be brought in on short notice which increased our costs this year.

V. Update on College Initiatives

The dean asked that the chairs write down and send him an e-mail as to where the department is at on each of the following initiatives:

1. All departments are to have a Mission & Vision Statement.
2. Identify/codify tenure and promotional guidelines for discipline(s). What is it that we expect a faculty member to do in the areas of teaching, scholarship and service to receive tenure and promotion.
3. Identify program goals for each major.
4. Develop an assessment strategy to evaluate those goals and see if the goals are being achieved. If the goals are not being met, what are you doing in order to achieve the goals?

The dean would like an electronic copy of the documents in final form. Guidelines will be reviewed by the dean and discussed with the chair.

VI. Academic Affairs

Academic Affairs did not meet yesterday.

VII. Around the Table

DEAN'S OFFICE (Glassman) - In the Chronicle, Kansas State placed a large ad stating the number of students attending their University who have received nationwide scholarships.

ENGLISH – K. Gillam had an article accepted. A. Helmstetter gave a presentation. The English Honor Society had a book buy yesterday and an induction last week. E. Passmore presented manuscripts made by her students. Ropewalk was held last Thursday. The English courses submitted to the UCC were approved.

DEAN'S OFFICE (Aakhus) - English, MCL, and CLA all have tables represented at the orientation fair. Get copies of information for students to M. Aakhus. We would like for the tables to have sign-in sheets so that each department can create a database and follow up with interested students.

PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION – M.L. Stoll presented at Feminist Philosophy, Undisciplined in Cleveland, Ohio sponsored by the Society for Women in Philosophy, Eastern Division (ESWIP) on April 11-12, 2008. "Defining Dirty: The Case for a Pragmatist Feminist Conceptual Analysis of Sex"

MODERN & CLASSICAL LANGUAGES - The classes submitted to the UCC were accepted and approved. One of the high schools which attended the Language Bowl has requested to come to USI on a field trip.

PERFORMING ARTS – L. Leibowitz and 4 students performed segments of P. Aakhus's manuscript at the Scavone Awards.

Acting 251 has been approved by the Core Curriculum to serve in the area of Speech and Interpersonal Communications as a core class. Humanities courses have a prerequisite of CMST 101 or CMST 107; Humanities faculty would like to review THTR 251 as an alternative prerequisite. The Dean will report back to the LAC if Humanities finds challenges with adding THTR 251 as a prerequisite.

ART – C. Armstrong had an exhibition in Terre Haute. R. Millard-Mendez was part of a 2-person show in Jasper; he has his 51st show in North Carolina, and he has work showcased in the Oaklyn Library. K. Waters has a show in Henderson. H. Braysmith is attending a conference in Las Vegas. M. Aakhus has a book signing tomorrow in the UC.

SOCIOLOGY – The Board of Trustees met last week, and the Criminal Justice Studies major has been approved to move to the state level. Last week the Center for Applied Research had a reception for individuals submitting projects. 3 projects were submitted from LA, and of those 3, 2 were from Sociology.

COMMUNICATIONS –Our Advertising Students finished fifth out of nine teams in our randomly selected division in the American Advertising Federation National Student Advertising Competition District Six in Detroit.

GENDER STUDIES - Gender Studies is hosting a film dealing with homosexuality in film, how it is portrayed, and stereotypes tonight in RL0017.

DEAN'S OFFICE (Glassman) - The Dean thanked the chairs for all their hard work. We will miss B. Hart and thank her for serving as Acting Chair for the English department this previous year.