

**Approved Minutes  
College of Liberal Arts  
Liberal Arts Council  
October 25, 2005**

Meeting came to order at 8:30 AM

Attending: David Glassman, Joe Palladino, Dal Herring, Don Pitzer – on behalf of Tamara Hunt, Michael Kearns, Leslie Roberts, Katie Waters, Stephen Zehr, Paul Raymond, Michael Aakhus, Jo Ann LaMar, and Angela Torres

Guest: Craig Fehrman

**I Approval of the Minutes (Glassman)**

The chairs need additional time to review the minutes for the last meeting.

**II Student Research Journal Proposal (Craig Fehrman)**

Craig Fehrman is a Junior with a double major in Psychology and English. He developed the idea of a Student Research Journal for the College of Liberal Arts so that students would have an outlet to publish their research. The publication would cost \$450 for 250 copies of 80 pages, or \$350 for 250 copies of 60 pages. He would like to have the works published in time for Honors Day in order to distribute them at that time. He would also like to have copies in the library and on the USI website. He would like to have papers submitted by the end of this semester or the early part of next semester in order to give him time for editing and printing. He plans to have one publication per year.

The Dean asked how this publication would continue after Fehrman graduates. Currently most of the students interested in the project are of Junior standing. Fehrman asked faculty to suggest potential students he would train on the programs used. These students could use the publication as a resume builder, and the University could use the publication to promote the College.

There is not yet a faculty advisor. It should be someone that knows how to deal with multidisciplinary issues. It was suggested that there be two faculty advisors with at least one of them having experience in critical writing.

Dr. Palladino asked if Mr. Fehrman planned to use the same format for each discipline. Palladino suggested using APA for Psychology and MLA for English. The Dean asked that if separate formats are used, that there be a citation about it placed at the front of the publication.

Dr. Pitzer commented that the History department would be interested in being involved in the final editing. Mr. Fehrman would like for Dr. Sherry Darrel to be involved because she is a meticulous editor. He has had experience in editing through his work with Dr. Kearns on the Emily Dickinson bulletin.

The Dean feels that this is a low cost project that would have a high value for the students. He likes the idea of using this publication as a recruitment tool and using it as a source to show students' work.

**III Class Disruptions (Glassman)**

A class disruption was defined by the Dean as any behavior by students that causes the instructor not to be able to provide their lecture as they see fit. The Dean checked with Tim Schibik on disruptions in the classroom, and he revealed that there is a national trend of increasing

classroom disruptions. Dr. Schibik or CTLE would be willing to offer a workshop on how to handle the disruptions, but would not be able to do so until the spring.

#### **IV Gonfalon-color Book (Glassman)**

The Dean asked that the chairs review the *Greenbook*/Gonfalon-color Book so that all faculty can have a printed copy for their files. The title is to remain *Context and Criteria for Faculty Evaluations*.

#### **V Minus Grades (Glassman)**

The faculty senate passed a recommendation to institute minus grades. Now the Provost's office must decide whether or not to institute the recommendation.

#### **VI Student Evaluation of Teaching (Glassman)**

The Faculty Senate continues to develop a new tool for the student evaluation of teaching. Dr. Bennett is currently checking with companies that distribute evaluation forms to see if they will adapt the form to our needs.

The idea is to separate summative information from formative information. The formative information would be chosen by the individual teaching the course, and then they would decide whether or not to include the information in their portfolio. The evaluative summative information would be mandatory and would be placed in the faculty member's file.

Dr. Zehr asked about the validity of the surveys. He asked that we do interviews or focus groups with the students to make sure that we receive accurate results. The Dean is to bring this issue up at the next Academic Affairs meeting. He will also have the students on the Student Advisory Board write up their own meaning for each question. The Faculty Senate would like to have the new form in place by next year.

#### **VII Voting of LARA Research Awards (Glassman)**

The LARA Research Awards were voted on by the chairs on the basis of merit of the project. The Dean will tally the votes and send out an announcement listing the award winners. Katie Waters requested that the instructions be amended to say, "In case of a tie, the Dean will determine the outcome based on the following criteria..."

#### **VIII Banner Topics (Glassman)**

There are two teams the Dean has developed for Banner.

One is the Banner Training Team. This is a group of faculty members that are computer savvy and would be interested in helping to train or answer questions for other faculty. Currently Dr. Hunt and Maggie Felton have expressed interest.

The second is the Banner Advisory Team, where issues are brought up that effect the Banner implementation. It has been decided that this team will be the LAC members. The chairs are to look at the questions provided in the handout the Dean passed out and then respond to the Dean with their thoughts.

#### **IX Around the Table**

Dr. Herring gave background information on his announcement – There have been two Supreme Court rulings, *Tinker vs. DeMoines*, where it was decided that freedom of speech does not stop at the school door, and *Hazelwood*, where it was decided that a High School principal can censor student publications. The 7<sup>th</sup> Federal Circuit Court ruled recently that a University can step in and control student generated copy. The Student Press Law Center sent out a request to ask that

Presidents of Universities sign a Charter of Freedom that allows the students to have responsibility to edit their own copies. President Hoops did sign the document for USI, which covers *The Shield* and the TV studio's *Access USI*. If there are other student organizations that have student publications, they should submit a request to the Student Publication Committee in order to bring their mass medium in under the Charter of Freedom.

Dr. Pitzer announced that the Center for Communal Studies is bringing in Susan Love Brown on November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2 PM in Mitchell Auditorium. Her presentation will be on "The Limits of Communalism: What We Can Learn from the Study of International Communities." Information on the presentation is listed in the USI Quick Notes. He also announced that a new film called "Heaven on Earth – the Rise and Fall of Socialism" will air on PBS on November 11<sup>th</sup>. This film features scenes in New Harmony and on Robert Owen. Both Connie Weinzapfel and Pitzer were interviewed for the film.

Dr. Kearns announced that the English Department is sponsoring the Community of Scholars Lecture. Louise DeSalvo is a writer of creative non-fiction and will be presenting "Writing Obscure Lives: From Virginia Woolf to My Immigrant Ancestors" in Carter Hall at 7 PM on Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. He also announced that there will be a reading of the current issue of the *Aerie* on Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM in the Kleymeyer.

Katie Waters announced that Dan Craig has a performance this Sunday with the Chamber Choir at 3 PM at St. Anthony Catholic Church. She also announced that the Art students sold \$17,000 worth of corn and soft drinks at their booth at the Fall Festival. They will be using some of this money to attend an international sculpture exhibition in Chicago this weekend.

Dr. Zehr announced that Steven Williams will be giving a colloquium presentation this Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3:30 PM in Carter Hall titled "How to build a War: the Post-9/11 Construction of Inevitability" about the movement from 9/11 to the invasion of Iraq, the condition of society, and getting society ready to go to war. Williams will be on the Shively and Shoulders show on PBS this Thursday evening.

Dr. Roberts announced that John Gibson will be accompanying Mr. Aakhus to Mexico in order to take pictures and write poetry on the Day of the Dead.

Mr. Aakhus would like to complete the 2+2 arrangements with VU by the second week of November.

JoAnn LaMar asked the chairs for any staffing changes for the spring term. She needs them immediately because she has started working on the spring contracts.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:22 AM.