

Approved Minutes
College of Liberal Arts
Liberal Arts Council
December 6, 2005

Meeting came to order at 8:34 AM

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

Guests: Maurice Hamington and Patty Aakhus

I Approval of the Minutes (Glassman)

No minutes were available to approve today.

II New Course Petition (Raymond and Hamington)

PHIL 311 – Ethics in the Professions was initiated due to new standards that are required for certification by the Engineering Program. Philosophy plans to offer the course once a year with a class size of 20.

Dr. Herring asked that mass media be included in the description. Professor Waters asked if Dr. Hamington could work in something regarding the topic of artistic freedom. It was moved and seconded to approve the course as amended to add mass media in the description. The Dean asked for discussion.

There is concern about the small class size, especially if this course fulfills a core requirement. Dr. Hamington stated that the department was planning to offer the course once a year but is willing to work out a different plan if the needs of students are not being met.

The LAC approved the new course with amendments.

III New Course Petitions (P. Aakhus)

Patty Aakhus brought three courses before the LAC, INST 490 – Independent Study, INST 480 – Internship, and INST 470 – Special Topics in International Interdisciplinary Studies. The courses were modeled after others already represented in the College of Liberal Arts for various programs.

Dr. Hunt moved to accept all three course petitions. Dr. Palladino seconded, and the Dean opened the floor for discussion.

The Dean asked that the Internship outline the requirements for the course including the number of contact hours that will be required and also the process of student grading. Dr. Raymond offered that the Political Science website has information regarding their internship requirements and Patty Aakhus is welcome to use any information.

Dr. Herring moved to accept all three proposals with the modifications that all three reflect a requirement of JR/SR standing and more direct grading guidelines stated. For the internship, modification should reflect that the consent should come from the Program Director. Roberts seconded the motion.

The LAC approved the petitions with modifications.

IV Overload Compensation for Large Class Size (Glassman and Zehr)

The Dean collected data from other colleges concerning large class size. He noted that stipends at these institutions are an extreme rarity. He will give this issue additional attention before making any formal policy decision. It was suggested that the Dean discuss his findings at a Liberal Arts Faculty meeting so that the faculty will have a chance to raise their concerns before a policy is made.

V Update on anti-plagiarism software (Torres)

Angela Torres handed out information about pricing for anti-plagiarism software. The Dean asked that we table discussion of the issue until a later date

VI Budget Presentation Process

The Dean asked the Chairs to start meeting with their department faculty on preparing budgets. Presentations will take place in the conference room and will be open to Liberal Arts Faculty. If the conference room proves to be too small, we will move the presentations elsewhere.

VII Academic Affairs Update

Two new faculty awards have been instituted by the Foundation. The first is for Junior Faculty in their 1st-6th year; it will provide a \$1,000 stipend and \$1,000 for support. The second is for an Adjunct, and carries a \$500 stipend and \$500 support. The Adjunct must have taught at USI for 3-4 consecutive semesters in order to be eligible. The Distinguished Professor Award will be modified to include that a professor must be here more than 6 years, and the award amount will be increased to \$2,500.

The Dean asked if there was any progress for the proposal of a graduate program in Communal Studies. Dr. Hunt and Dr. Pitzer will set up a time to discuss the issue with the Dean. The Dean announced that if there is any interest in developing Graduate Programs, and chairs should let the Dean know so that he may notify Academic Affairs to put it on their planning agenda.

VIII Around the Table

The Dean would like to express his gratitude to Dr. Raymond and Dr. Herring. They will both be on sabbatical next semester

Dr. Raymond announced that there will be an open house on Tuesday December 13th at 5:30 PM for the MPA program. It is open to all faculty and the MPA students.

Dr. Zehr announced that there is a Sociology meeting tomorrow. They have a short list of people to invite to campus for their faculty search.

Dr. Roberts announced that there will be a sing tomorrow at 4:30 PM. They will be taking contributions of \$1 for Habitat for Humanities in order to help build homes for the victims of the tornado. She also stated that they are doing the final phone interviews today for the Foreign Language Chair search.

Professor Waters stated that the Madrigals were a great success. She announced that Elliot Wasserman received the Kennedy Center Award for Excellence in Teaching. There are only two people in the country that received the award. She also announced that the ceramic sale is going on today and tomorrow.

Dr. Kearns announced that they continue their search for a Direct of Composition.

Professor Aakhus announced that there is a film production company in Boston that will be re-filming the printing of the Audubon Plate in our studio in February. It will be produced by PBS for the American Masters Series.

Dr. Hunt announced that the Latin American search committee will meet on Monday to select the candidates to bring to campus. She also announced that Phi Alpha Theta had their first initiation with five new initiates. She also announced that Lynda Morrison will be moving to Maryland. She also announced that a former USI history student, Jon Carl, was named Indiana's History Teacher of the Year by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History and Preserve America. Carl is a social studies teacher at Reitz High School.

Dr. Palladino announced that Julie Evey coauthored an article published in Child Development titled "The Nominal Passover Effect Depends on Addressee Age, Speaker Goal, and Object Similarity." He also announced that Chris Bloom has been accepted for publication of an article in the Teaching of Psychology titled "The Olympian Struggle to Remember the Cranial Nerves: Mnemonics and Student Success."

The Dean announced that Robbie Mann has resigned after this semester. He has been asked to return to Louisiana in the aftermath of Katrina. Marjorie Jones will be coming back to teach Dr. Mann's classes in the spring.

LaMar reminded the Chairs that we are going to Madeline's for lunch tomorrow at 11:30 AM. A van will be provided for transportation.

The annual Liberal Arts holiday pitch-in lunch and celebration for Drs. Gabennesch, Herring and Petranek will be on Wednesday, December 14th beginning at 11:00 AM.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:25 AM.