

Approved Minutes
College of Liberal Arts
Liberal Arts Council
April 4, 2006

Meeting came to order at 8:32 AM

Attending: David Glassman, Joe Palladino, Tamara Hunt, Leslie Roberts, Stephen Zehr, Katie Waters, Michael Kearns, Charles Barber, Wayne Rinks, Michael Aakhus, and Angela Torres

I Approval of the Minutes (Glassman)

The minutes for 1/10/06 were reviewed. They were accepted as amended.

II Registration Update (Glassman)

The Dean noted that a number of problems were identified on the first day of registration, but things appear to be improving. Students have access in MyUSI to a screen similar to SIS 105 and efforts are being made to provide access to this informational screen to faculty and chairs. The Dean asked the Chairs to contact the Math department if they had any questions about placing students in particular Math classes. The new registration form developed by Arlene Fortune was reviewed and approved for use in the College. Special thanks were given to Ms. Fortune and Ms. Torres for providing continued assistance with Banner registration.

III Determining Qualified Faculty (Glassman)

The Dean reminded Chairs that departments with faculty who do not hold a graduate degree must provide a portfolio for each individual qualifying that person's teaching employment with the department. The portfolio will be retained in the faculty member's personnel file.

The Dean handed out two forms. One provided suggestions prepared by the Higher Learning Commission on qualifications required to teach at a University. The second form requests that Chairs provide information on the academic degrees held by their full-time and part-time faculty and to define policy for minimum qualifications required for teaching in their academic programs. The Dean requested that the information be turned in by April 30.

IV Minus-Grade Policy Proposal (Glassman)

The majority of faculty appear to be in favor of instituting the minus grade into the university's grading system. Some implications of adopting the minus grade have been identified in Financial Aid, the National Honor Societies, and some other areas of the University. Dr. Bennett has requested that a survey of peer institutions in Indiana be undertaken to identify the grading systems they have in place.

V Around the Table

The Dean thanked the Chairs for their work on the merit increases. He will be interviewing applicants to fill Jo Ann's position.

Dr. Hunt reported that the History Honor Society had a successful conference on March 24. Dr. Hunt also announced that Dr. Jason Hardgrave's article "The Formation of Women's Legal Identity in Trecento Venice," *Essays in Medieval Studies* 22 (2005): 41-52, will be released by the NEH Summer Institute this summer.

Dr. Zehr announced that they have additional candidates coming for their sociology faculty searches.

Dr. Barber announced that they have finished phone interviews for their 1-YR search for a position in American Politics and Public Policy.

Dr. Kearns announced that poet Michael Waters gave a reading last Thursday in Kleymeyer. He also announced that Ron Mitchell and Jim McGarrah are working on the Great State Poetry Exchange where USI students will travel to ISU and Berea. Students from ISU are scheduled to present their readings on our campus today at 3 PM in Kleymeyer.

Dr. Roberts announced that the Language Academic Bowl starts at 8:30 AM on Thursday, April 6. They currently have 42 teams registered and are still receiving applications. Dr. Roberts also noted that the French students met at Carol MacKay's home last week.

Prof. Aakhus announced that Dr. Palladino gave a wonderful keynote address at the 25th annual undergraduate research conference. Dr. Palladino was the founder of the conference.

Prof. Waters announced that students will be entering their work for the student art show on Thursday. Ruth Esserman has been invited to judge the show and will be giving a presentation on her work on Friday at 7:30 PM in Kleymeyer. The student art show will open Sunday from 3-5 PM in the UC Bridge, with an awards ceremony at 4:00 PM. Approximately \$10,000 in awards and scholarships have been donated for the event. The show will continue throughout the week.

Dr. Palladino announced that USI hosted the Psychology Undergraduate Research Conference with Julie Evey serving as the local representative. Eighteen schools representing six states participated in the event. Of the 79 papers on the program, eight were presented by USI students. Dr. Palladino also announced that the 5th edition of his textbook is now available.

The Dean announced the need to elect a new Liberal Arts representative to the Graduate Council as Susanna Hoeness-Krupsaw is ending her three year term. Other current Liberal Arts representatives include appointed members Tom Rivers and Charles Barber who is currently filling in for Representative Paul Raymond. The Dean made a call for nominations.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:54 AM.