

**Approved Minutes**  
College of Liberal Arts  
Liberal Arts Council  
June 27, 2006

Meeting came to order at 9:00 am.

**Attending:** David Glassman, Michael Aakhus, Joe Palladino, Paul Raymond, Michael Kearns, Stephen Zehr, Susan Wolfe, Katie Waters, Wayne Rinks, Angela Torres and Bobbie Christie

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

Minutes from 4/11/06 and 5/2/06 were reviewed and approved as amended.

**II. Faculty Ranks/Titles (Glassman)**

The Dean discussed the concern that Liberal Arts faculty have expressed with assigning rank at his meeting with Academic Affairs. Dr. Bennett formed a committee to review the current system and make recommendations. Committee members are David Glassman, Brian Posler and Scott Gordon. A working draft was distributed to the chairs with a request that they review the draft and make recommendations to the Dean.

**III. Course Fees Review**

The dean discussed the possibility of charging special course fees for some LA classes to help offset the growing costs for class materials, supplies and equipment charged to the college.

Suggestions and comments made by the chairs:

- LA provides a large number of core courses that are expensive to maintain
- LA budget indicates need for selected course fees, particularly in Humanities
- LA core courses have a large number of students from outside the College, placing cost demands on the College
- Varying fee rates might affect class numbers; we should have a flat fee for all core classes
- Fee titles can be changed without further approval; fee amount changes must go through administration for approval

**IV. Faculty Searches**

The provost's office recognizes serious problems with the faculty recruiting process. Dr. Bennett has created a discussion list of possibilities that might help make the process more efficient:

- Raise salaries for hiring
- No-lease temporary housing for new faculty at minimal cost – THIS IS ALREADY IN EFFECT FOR FALL
- Shorten the approval process time once applications leave the dean's office

- Develop a uniform hiring check list for all colleges within the university
- Adjust faculty load to 3-3-2 or 3-4
- Offer multi-year contracts subject to renewal based on performance
- “Start up” funding for research or additional travel funding
- Make hiring process more efficient at departmental and college levels
- Focus on positive presentation of the university and the community

#### **V. Program Review**

The Dean distributed printed guidelines for academic program review. History and International Studies have completed their reviews for 2006. Foreign Languages and Humanities are scheduled for review in 2006-2007. Gender Studies, Classical Studies, MALS, Political Science, Philosophy and Sociology are all slated for 2007-2008.

#### **VI. Around the Table**

Dr. Glassman, Michael Aakhus and Jenny Medcraft are re-designing the LA website. Faculty will be required to put sponsored events on the website's LA calendar.

Michael Aakhus will contact the physical plant regarding temperature control in offices and classrooms of the LAC.

Dr. Palladino announced that department chairs will be needed to help register new and transfer students on Saturday, July 8, due to the shortage of Amigos. Dr. Glassman will request more Amigos for the next advising session.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:37 am.