

Approved
Liberal Arts Council
February 8, 2005

Present: Dr. David Glassman, Michael Aakhus, Dr. Joseph Palladino, Dr. Tamara Hunt, Dr. Paul Raymond, Dr. Stephen Zehr, Ms Joan Kempf, Dr. Michael Kearns, Dr. Dal Herring, Dr. Carol MacKay, Ms. Jo Ann LaMar and Ms. Bobbie Christie.

Guests: Dr. Maurice Hamington, Dr. John Gottcent and Daniel Craig.

I. Approval of Minutes

Meeting minutes for 2/1, 1/18 and 1/25 were approved with minor changes.

II. LIBA Curriculum Proposal

Dr. Maurice Hamington presented a proposal for a new LIBA course in philosophy, "Theories of Love and Sex". A question was raised about the large number of required texts possibly being cost-prohibitive. Dr. Hamington estimated the cost at about \$100.00 but will look into what the total cost will be. A motion was made and passed to approve the course which will be offered in Fall 2005.

III. Annual Chair Evaluations

Upon review of the current form and process for faculty evaluations, Dr. Glassman has developed a new form specifically for department chairs. The form is divided into four categories as follows: 1) Managing the department, which should be 50% of the total job responsibilities, 2) Professional accomplishments, with citations, 3) Service activities not related to chair responsibilities, and 4) Plans for departmental and professional development in the next year. A copy of the new form was distributed to those present for review and discussion.

Dr. Glassman proposed that the new form would better detail the chairs' activities and responsibilities. The dean hopes to coordinate all these evaluations on a more reasonable schedule and in a more consistent manner. He will also discuss the use of the proposed chair evaluation form with Dr. Bennett. Chair evaluations will not be made until the end of the spring semester.

Dr. Kearns suggested a possible chair evaluation by adjunct faculty for those departments who rely heavily on regular part-time faculty members. Dr. Raymond advised that development of a chair evaluation by adjuncts should be approached carefully and Dr. Hunt agreed that such a project should allow for sufficient time and careful planning. Dr. Glassman will send an email to all adjunct faculty members to get their feed back on the idea.

IV. Art, Music & Theatre Proposal

Daniel Craig, the director of the music program, presented his argument for separation of the art and theatre and music programs. He emphasized the need for the three programs to have a more effective administrative structure. As separate departments, art and the performing arts

could both focus on their individual needs and as is observed in many comparable institutions, music and theatre are often linked together.

The addition of “music theatre” to the theatre curriculum will enhance recruitment of theatre students, as well as offer more opportunities for students with musical interests. The decision to make the performing arts a separate department would prepare the way for future opportunities. It will be a slow process, with the future goals for the music program having minor in vocal music and in time a degree. Dr. Glassman stated that this merger will be discussed more thoroughly in the near future, before a recommendation is made. Any recommendation must be approved by the Office of Academic Affairs.

V. Annual Evaluation Report and Planning Agreement

After reading sections in both the old and revised Green Book, Dr. Glassman has found inconsistencies in identifying what documents are required and how “portfolio” is used and defined. A “portfolio” should include a lifetime of accomplishments. The “annual report” should be the yearly updates/changes to the portfolio. Defined in this way, the portfolio is not a requirement for contract renewal. Renewal should be based on the annual report with documented material from the previous year.

A sample of a much-simplified annual faculty review form from another institution was distributed by the dean. The discussion raised a number of questions about the current review process as well as the effectiveness of the Purdue forms. The need for faculty members to have a planning agreement with their departments is at the discretion of the chair, but should be required for either all faculty members or none of them.

VI. Academic Affairs Update

The provost’s office is requesting each school to define “scholarship” including the differences in what constitutes “scholarship”, “engagement” and “scholarship of engagement”. Department chairs should be working with faculty to determine how they perceive these terms.

VII. Around the Table

Dr. Hunt reminded everyone of the presentation by Dr. Pitzer this Friday at Thrall’s Opera House in New Harmony at 6:30 pm.

Michael Aakhus asked that any announcements to be included in the spring issue of the LA Story be submitted to him soon. If you have ideas for stories in the fall issue please send them to his attention.

Dr. Kearns announced the Thursday 7 pm. reading of Jennifer S. Davis which is part of the Ropewalk Reading Series. Also, Eric von Fuhrmann is presenting the H. Lee Cooper Core Curriculum Teaching Award lecture, “The Dumbing Down of American Higher Education” on Monday, Feb.14, at 3 pm in Carter Hall.

Joan Kempf announced that art students and faculty are currently showing their work in a juried art show at the museum.

Dr. Zehr announced that Catherine Krull will present “Fallen Women and Revolutionary Mothers...” as part of the University Core Curriculum Speaker series at 8 pm on Thursday in Kley Meyer Hall.

Dr. Raymond announced that the Indiana Court of Appeals will be on campus Thursday at 2 pm in Carter Hall.