

Approved Minutes
Liberal Arts Council
April 12, 2005

Present: Dr. David Glassman, Michael Aakhus, Dr. Joseph Palladino,
Dr. Tamara Hunt, Dr. Michael Kearns, Joan Kempf, Dr. Paul
Raymond, Dr. Carol MacKay, Dr. Dal Herring and Bobbie Christie.
Guest: Dr. Todd Schroer, representing Sociology in Dr. Zehr's absence.

I. Minutes from April 5, 2005

Although the minutes were sent by email early this morning, it was decided to table approval until everyone had time to review them.

II. Committee and Faculty Senate Vacancies - Glassman

Dr. Glassman had a list of University committees that will need new representatives from Liberal Arts to replace those whose terms are ending. Chairs were asked to take nominations from their faculty to present at the next council meeting. The selection process should be completed by the end of the spring semester so representatives will be in place to serve their two year terms beginning in the fall semester. Dr. Hunt reminded everyone that the SLAFDA committee will also be selecting several new members for two year terms. Dr. Glassman will send an email to all faculty asking for nominations and referring them to the handbook section that explains the process and responsibilities. Michael Aakhus will coordinate the elections.

III. Summer Advising Fellows – Palladino

Dr. Palladino announced the nine summer advising fellows for this year. They are: Suzan Kiesel, Dave Black, John Morris, Bob Jeffers and Wayne Rinks from Communications (Jeffers and Rinks are sharing one advising position); Maggie Felton and Sid Hall from Psychology; Virginia Poston from Art, and Paula von Lowenfeldt from English. Each of the positions will advise on five of the six summer advising dates and will receive an \$800 stipend with the exception of the split fellowship which will receive \$400 each. Department chairs are expected to be available for all summer advising dates to answer questions and assist advisors. Amigos will be available to provide assistance.

IV. Chair Initial Discussion of Green Book – Glassman

Dean Glassman asked the chairs where they were on discussions with their faculty over the Green Book revision. Dr. Palladino brought two issues from the psychology department. First, faculty members felt the new version should be reviewed by an attorney familiar with Indiana state law, and second, there was a consensus in favor of the new edition but they view it as a living document in need of continued updates and revision. Dr. Glassman acknowledged the possible need for revisions and offered that amendments to the revised green book would be considered. Dr. Herring requested that a preface be added with regard to department guidelines and how it will integrate with the revised green book, to which Dr. Glassman agreed.

The dean responded that the current revisions have been in process for two years. The process started before his arrival. He pointed out that current faculty would continue under the guidelines of the existing green book and new faculty hired after the completion and acceptance of the revised green book would fall under its guidelines. He emphasized though that he will request that the university allow him to use his new plan for annual reporting for both old and new faculty. He also mentioned that the university faculty handbook is up for revision next year. Changes made in the university faculty handbook may affect the LA Green Book. Regardless of the handbook revision Dr. Glassman would like to see the process of green book revision go forward. In several years, with the completion of work on the faculty handbook, adjustments can be made to make the LA greenbook consistent with the university faculty handbook.

The dean sees the biggest obstacle to approval of the new Green Book as the definition of “scholarship.” Dr. Glassman expressed concern that no one area of scholarship should be given more emphasis or importance. The wording used in describing areas of scholarship seems to be the snag, particularly a definition for “scholarship of engagement.” Dr. Kearns offered to work on a few sentences that might make the language more generally acceptable.

The council also discussed the weak wording regarding what is expected of contract faculty versus tenure-eligible and tenured faculty. Dr. Kearns said the current wording was taken from the university faculty handbook. The dean stressed the importance of all contract faculty to have the opportunity and to be encouraged to engage in creative and scholarly activity for continued learning and professional development. Dr. Kearns suggested that such “creative work and scholarship” should be added in the “context and criteria” section of the new Green Book, but felt the wording should reflect a non-threatening policy for contract faculty.

V. Chair Evaluation Procedure – Dr. Glassman

The evaluation of chairs will be based on the completed evaluation form and associated materials submitted by the chairs to the dean, the faculty chair review evaluations, student course evaluations, and a conference with the dean to discuss department achievements and goals.

Under the section of the form titled departmental management it was suggested that a space be designated for optional expanded discussion. It was also suggested that “professional appointments” (item number six) under “scholarship,” should be moved to “service,” and item number six be changed to “other forms of scholarship.” Dr. Glassman explained that the “planning proposal” section is for listing department initiatives. Dr. Glassman will be sending the chair evaluations to faculty members in a couple of days and conferences with the chairs will be scheduled after finals.

VI. Academic Affairs Update – Dr. Glassman

Dr. Bennett is out of town this week so there was no Academic Affairs meeting. However, Dr. Glassman spoke with Dr. Hoops, who was hopeful that the USI budget

would receive a slight increase from state allocation. Dr. Glassman also pointed out that the provost's first priority for any additional money will be raises for staff and faculty.

VII. Around the Table

Dean Glassman – Red, White, Black and Blues an event sponsored by the English department will take place April 22 from 2-3 pm in Kleymeyer Hall. There will be a book-signing and reception to follow.

Bobbie – The next advising dates are Friday, April 22 and Tuesday, April 26, from 1-5 pm.

Dr. Schroer – The sociology department is currently working on standards for adjuncts and evaluations for tenure-eligible faculty.

Dr. Herring – He attended a ceremony in Greencastle, IN, for the induction of local journalist Brad Byrd into the Journalism Hall of Fame.

Dr. MacKay – Dine Moeller-Sahling received the National Distance Education Award. Details to follow.

Professor Kempf – The USI Theatre production of Little Shop of Horrors opens this Wednesday. On April 19 a lecture on graphic design sponsored by the Society for Arts and Humanities will be held in Kleymeyer Hall. The student art show is on exhibit April 11- 17 in the University Center from 10 am – 6 pm. Doyle Dean will give a lecture in Kleymeyer Hall on April 14 as part of a grant he received from the NEA.

Dr. Kearns – A new English Club has been created. On April 21 at 8 pm in Forum II, the RopeWalk Reading Series will present Joy Harjo, internationally known poet who has received the American Indian Distinguished Achievement in the Arts Award.

Michael Aakhus – Saturday, April 23, the RISC grant recipients will make their presentations.

Dr. Hunt – The history department now has an updated link on their website that will connect majors with a job sites in history-related fields. On Thursday, April 21, the School of Liberal Arts Distinguished Scholar Lecture series will present two lectures by Dr. Alan Dawley, the Bancroft-Prize winning historian. The first lecture designed for students will be titled “The Search for Progressive Internationalism” at 9 am in Forum II and a public lecture entitled “the Illusions of Global America” will take place in Kleymeyer Hall at 6 pm. A reception will follow the evening lecture.

Dr. Palladino – Nine Psychology majors received funding from Dr. Parrent's office to attend the Mid-America Undergraduate Psychology Research Conference held at Franklin College. The conference was founded at ISUE (now USI) and rotates among four schools. Next year, the conference will meet at USI for its 25th anniversary. Psychology also has a number of excellent graduates who have been accepted to graduate programs.

Meeting adjourned at 10:29 am.