**Liberal Arts Council
November 3, 2015**

Present: M. Aakhus, M. Dixon, J. deJong, S. Rode, I. Phillips, T. Schroer, S. Spencer, W. Rinks, O. Armeanu, H. Braysmith, J. Hardgrave, P. Raymond, D. Hitchcock, E. Wasserman, K. Oeth, and R. Lutton

Absent: D. Pellant and R. Rowland

The meeting started at 9:00 a.m.

**I. Budget and Cost Savings Updates**

M. Dixon provided a brief update on the budget and cost savings measures that the college is considering. He noted that we have identified several areas that we may consider. K. Oeth added that the college’s printing expenses are currently higher than they have been at this time in previous fiscal years. O. Armeanu requested information on the difference in costs for printing in house and at Creative and Print Services. K. Oeth will collect this information and provide a report at our next meeting.

**II. HLC Faculty Qualification Guidelines and Compliance**

M. Dixon provided an overview of the HLC qualification guidelines and what is being done in order to ensure that we are in compliance.

**III. Transfer Credit Policy**

M. Dixon reported on the new policy for transfer of credits from other institutions, and a general discussion followed. M. Aakhus urged chairs to beware of issues that may arise pertaining to students’ financial aid eligibility that could result from this new policy.

**IV. Honors Day Events**

M. Dixon reminded chairs to submit to him and R. Lutton the date and location of their Honors Day events by Monday November 16. J. Hardgrave also requested that chairs submit their departmental nominations to the College Honors Day Awards Committee (J. Hardgrave [chair], D. Hitchcock, and E. Wasserman) by December 1, 2015.

**V. Curriculog Procedure/Policy**

M. Dixon reported that the University Curriculum Committee will require that departmental faculty approve curriculum petitions electronically in Curriculog. Until this change is made official, faculty signatures will be accepted.

**VI. Open Items from Chairs**

M. Aakhus reported briefly on a meeting of Liberal Arts deans from the state of Indiana that he attended last week in Indianapolis. He will share electronically with chairs information about some grant opportunities through Indiana Humanities.

M. Aakhus also expressed his gratitude to D. Hitchcock for his efforts to bring R. Hernández Garrido to USI and for the successful performances last week of *All Who Are Left*. He thanked also E. Wasserman for his efforts and those of the Performing Arts Department faculty in this collaborative project. E. Wasserman added that the Mallette Theatre is available for other collaborative projects, and that he is open to discussing possible projects with other departments.

The meeting adjourned at 10:09 a.m.