

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FACULTY  
OF THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

March 22, 2011, 3:30 p.m.

Stewart Center, Room 313

Dean Irwin Weiser, Presiding

Before Dean Weiser presented Excellence in Teaching Awards, Professor Michael Morrison, chair of the Excellence in Teaching Awards Committee, made a few comments about the process and the quality of the pool of nominees. Awards were presented to Professors Randy Roberts (HIST), recipient of the College Educational Excellence in Teaching Award, and Richard Sullivan Lee (VPA), who received a departmental Educational Excellence in Teaching Award. Because of conflicting obligations, Professors Patricia Boling (POL) and Melanie Morgan (COM) were unable to attend to receive their awards at the meeting. Dean Weiser acknowledged the work of the committee.

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 16, 2010.

The minutes were approved as distributed.

2. REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES:

- A. Professor Evelyn Blackwood (SOC), vice chair of the Senate, stated that she chaired the December Senate meeting in the dean's absence.
- B. Professor Daniel Smith (PHIL), chair of the Agenda Committee, said the committee had two requests to include agenda items at a future meeting.
- C. Professor Evelyn Blackwood, member of the Curriculum Committee, reported that the committee has approved 14 new courses, 5 course revisions, 5 program revisions, 4 program deletions since the November 2010 faculty meeting. These were all approved by the CLA Senate.
- D. Professor Martha Riley (VPA), chair of the Educational Policy Committee, said the committee has met one time. They approved four course additions and four course deletions to the CLA Core.
- E. Professor Rod Bertolet (PHIL), member of the Faculty Affairs Committee, said the committee considered and endorsed a change in the CLA by-laws to define endorsement by the Area Committee as a simple majority. The committee also considered, but did not approve, a proposal to add IDIS representation to the Area Committee by appointing the associate dean for interdisciplinary studies and engagement to the Area Committee. The committee has not received another proposal on this issue. The chair of the committee will have a meeting with the dean next month to share the results of a faculty survey.
- F. Professor Michael Morrison (HIST), chair of the Nominating and Elections committee, stated that there were no changes to the Senate reapportionments for next year. He also reported that Dr. Stacey Connaughton was elected to replace Dr. Brant Burleson as a senator from COM.

3. OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Dr. Song No presented a list of 762 students who are candidates for the Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree in May 2011, and a list of 210 students who will be candidates for the Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree in August 2011. He recommended approval, and the Senate endorsed both lists by voice vote.

5. REPORT OF THE DEAN:

- A. Dr. Weiser reported on recruitment efforts, saying that new colleagues have been hired in African American Studies, Anthropology, English, History, Political Science, Sociology, and Visual & Performing Arts. Another new hire in Philosophy will join the department after completing a post-doc at the National Institutes of Health. The Department of Communication has hired a new clinical faculty member, and the search continues for an assistant professor in Asian American Studies.
- B. The dean reported that CLA has received support from the Offices of the President and the Provost for a five-lecture series that is helping with planning for a Center for Research on Diversity and Inclusion. Professors Michael Dawson of the University of Chicago and Rodney Hero of Berkeley have given their lectures and spent time talking with the planning committee about plans for the center. Three more lectures and visits are scheduled before the end of the semester: Professors Philip Bowman of Michigan (April 25), Cedric Herring of the University of Illinois at Chicago (April 14), and Paula McClain of Duke University (May 4). The planning committee has received very positive feedback on the lectures, and there is much support and excitement from across campus for the Center.
- C. The Strategic Planning Committee continues to meet. The committee has expanded its discussions to think about providing guidance for the College through 2020 rather than through 2014. The committee also anticipates receiving a report soon from a subcommittee of the Dean's Advisory Council, which has been brainstorming about the College from the perspective of alumni.
- D. Dr. Weiser said he has met with department heads for initial planning discussions about the instructional budget for next year, in preparation for the college budget meeting with the Provost in early June. He assumes the budget for the biennium will be tight, which probably means that recruiting will be limited for the next few years. Although the dean has heard nothing definitive about merit raises, he has asked department heads and supervisors to plan for merit raises using 1-1.5%.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Welch  
Administrative Assistant to the Dean