

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LIBERAL ARTS FACULTY SENATE

September 20, 2011

3:30 p.m. in STEW 313

Dean Irwin Weiser, Presiding

Present: Atkinson, Dwight; Benedicto, Elena; Channon, Robert; Cooper, Kory; Curtis, Susan; Cuza-Blanco, Alejandro; de la Fuente, Ariel; Dossin, Catherine; Duvall, John; Fliotsos, Anne; Francis, Elaine; Friedman, Geraldine; Gruenbaum, Ellen; Hogan, Rich; Neary-Sundquist, Colleen; Nolan, Riall; Parrish, David; Rankine, Patrice; Ross, Charles; Smith, Daniel; Tilton, Mark; Turco, Jeffrey; Webb, Ralph; Yeomans, Christopher

Absent: Bhattacharya, Tithi; Bulow, Harry; Clawson, Rosalee; Feld, Scott; Lee, Richard Sullivan; Lopez, Al; McMullen, Shannon; Morrison, Michael; Nguyen, Bich Minh; Olson, Dan; Roberts, Felicia; Smith, Michael; Tyler, James

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING ON APRIL 12, 2011:

The minutes were approved as distributed.

2. REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES:

- A) Professor Jack Spencer, chair of the Curriculum Committee, reported that the committee approved four new courses, two course revisions, one course transfer from Calumet to West Lafayette, one program transfer from IDIS to FLL, a deletion of a major, and seven course deletions. The committee also clarified the requirements for the BA in Economics and approved changes in the pre-COM requirements. (See report #11-01.) The Senate approved the committee's report.
- B) Professor Anne Fliotsos, chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee, reminded the Senate that the Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) is charged with conducting an annual meeting with the dean. The purpose of the meeting is "to foster open and comprehensive exchange of information between the faculty and the dean about the state of the College, current and future activities in the College, and the actions of the dean and the dean's staff." A more formal review of the dean is to be conducted at least once every five years. Last year's FAC chair, Richard Hogan, met with the dean on April 22 to discuss the outcome of a web survey of faculty, which was conducted in January/February 2010. Twenty-three faculty responded. Dean Weiser found the comments helpful going forward and thanked the faculty and FAC for their input. To prepare for this year's annual meeting with the dean, the FAC will repeat the web survey in November. As with last year's survey, the comments will be anonymous. This year the entire committee will meet with the dean to discuss the results and report back to the Senate. Dr. Fliotsos also said the committee has been asked to develop a policy regarding attendance at Senate meetings.
- C) Professor Ralph Webb, member of the Nominating & Elections Committee, represented committee chair Rosalee Clawson in presenting a slate of nominations to complete the rosters of Senate committees. No nominations were made from the floor. The slate was approved by the Senate by voice vote. (See document #11-02.)

3. OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

5. DEAN'S REPORT:

Dean Weiser reported on additional financial support the College received from the President's Office. It covers four areas: professional travel funds for faculty that will supplement departmental funds, bringing totals across the College to \$1,000 for one trip per year; new programs to support global research, one for faculty and one for students (Global Synergy Research Grants); funds to reduce class-size in introductory oral communication and language courses, specifically COM 114 and Spanish courses (more instructors will be hired); and, in conjunction

with a very generous bequest from Margo Katherine Wilke, the establishment of the Wilke Undergraduate Research Fellowships. These fellowships will provide CLA undergraduate students an opportunity to work one-to-one with a faculty member on a research project. The program has been modeled after the successful Discovery Park DURi and Cancer Prevention Internship Programs. CLA has partnered with the Discovery Learning Research Center, who is administering our program along with their existing programs. The gift funds and the funds from the President enable CLA to provide each student with a \$500 stipend and each faculty member with a \$250 research award. Faculty who sponsor Dammon Dean's Scholars will also receive a \$250 research stipend. Discussion followed.

The Brian Lamb School of Communication officially came into existence on July 1 and will be celebrated on September 29th, highlighted by Brian Lamb conducting a 45-minute interview with Governor Mitch Daniels. The College has begun to identify ways to make this program even stronger. In addition, new private funding for scholarships, faculty support, student programs, lectures, and awards is being pursued.

Eleven new faculty have been welcomed into CLA this fall, and new searches for 2012-13 are just beginning. The dean was able to authorize searches in Communication, Spanish, Linguistics, and Interior Design, plus two searches for administrative leadership in Political Science and Women's Studies.

The dean's LA Influentials class (GS300) has an enrollment of 76 CLA students this semester. A CLA alumnus/a is the guest speaker each week.

The College has had several very successful events already this year: a symposium on Re-visioning Terrorism; a reception for a gift to Galleries from R. Hanneman; a Leonora Woodman Lecture Series speaker; a Sears Lecture Series speaker; and a reception for the CLA Emerging Voice Award winners - Brad Dancer (BA 1995, Communication), Delita Martin (MFA 2009, Fine Arts – Printmaking), and Jennifer Ping (BA 1995, History). Experience Liberal Arts month will be in October 2011.

Revisions to the College's budget reduction proposal continue. The dean is working with department heads to quantify the implications of reducing faculty positions, which may affect the instructional mission of the College and was of concern to the provost.

Dean Weiser reported on the activities of CLA's Sexual Harassment Advisors' Network (SHAN). (See report #11-03.) He noted that SHAN is serving the entire University, not just the College of Liberal Arts.

6. MEMORIAL RESOLUTIONS

Professor Ralph Webb read a memorial resolution for Dr. Leon Trachtman.

7. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Barbara Welch
Administrative Assistant to the Dean