

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LIBERAL ARTS FACULTY SENATE

January 17, 2012

3:30 p.m. in STEW 313

Dean Irwin Weiser, presiding

- Present: Dwight Atkinson; Joshua Boyd; Robert Channon; Rosalee Clawson; Kory Cooper; Susan Curtis; Alejandro Cuza-Blanco; Catherine Dossin; Anne Fliotsos; Elaine Francis; Richard Sullivan Lee; Sorin Matei; Marifran Mattson; Shannon McMullen; Riall Nolan; David Parrish; Jack Spencer; Bert Useem; Ralph Webb;
- Absent: Elena Benedicto; Tithi Bhattacharya; Harry Bulow; Ariel de la Fuente; Geraldine Friedman; Al Lopez; Colleen Neary-Sundquist; Bich Minh Nguyen; Dan Olson; Patrice Rankine; Charles Ross; Daniel Smith; Michael Smith; Mark Tilton; Jeffrey Turco; Steve Wilson; Christopher Yeomans
- Excused: John Duvall, Michael Morrison

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING ON DECEMBER 13, 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 one new course, two course revisions (one was a change in course description), one program revision and one title change, plus many minor revisions in English Education. (See document # 11-10.) The Senate approved the committee's report. Dr. Spencer said the committee is discussing whether to require electronic submissions to the curriculum committee, and he asked for input from the floor. Discussion followed.
- B) At the last CLA Senate meeting the Faculty Affairs Committee was asked to consider the issue of requiring a quorum of CLA senators in order to vote. Professor Anne Fliotsos, chair of the committee, reported that the committee discussed this issue and unanimously agreed that voting should NOT be restricted at CLA Senate meetings based on a quorum. Reasons included: timeliness of action items are crucial, particularly with curricular revision; if CLA Senate meetings have particularly low attendance and a vote is called, a senator may move to delay the vote due to small attendance; and new attendance policies are now in place, which may lessen the issue.
- C) Professor Sorin Matei, chair of the Educational Policy Committee, reported that the committee reviewed courses from the "Other Cultures" and "Math and Statistics" portions of the CLA Core Curriculum. One new course was approved for the Core and one course was deleted (see report # 11-08.) The Senate approved the recommendations of the committee.
- D) Professor Rosalee Clawson, chair of the Nominating & Elections Committee, reported on the CLA Senate reapportionments. The Department of English gained one senator, according to the formula, and the Brian Lamb School of Communication has one less senator. The Senate adopted the new reapportionments for 2012-13.

3. OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business.

5. DEAN'S REPORT:

Dr. Weiser said he has received the three recommendations from the Faculty Affairs Committee, as noted in the December 2011 minutes, and he will work towards implementing them.

In December 2011, the Board of Trustees approved changing the name of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures to the School of Languages and Cultures (SLC). The change removed the rather out-dated term “Foreign,” replaced the word “Literatures” with the word “Cultures” to more accurately reflect the breadth of scholarship and teaching that goes on in the school, and used the word “School” to be more consistent with similar organizational units where multiple languages and cultures are studied.

Recruiting this year is moving along well. VPA has hired new assistant professors in Interior Design; COM has hired an assistant professor in public relations and is interviewing candidates for an assistant professorship in interpersonal and health communication; and SLC is conducting searches for assistant professors in Russian and in Spanish Linguistics. Bridge funds have been received from the Provost’s Office to help with some of these recruitments. Candidates for the headship in Political Science are visiting campus, and candidates for the director of Women’s Studies will be on campus next month. Dean Weiser is also participating in the search for the dean of Purdue Extended Campus.

President Córdova announced last week that Purdue will gradually move to a trimester system with goals to boost summer enrollments, facilitate students’ progress towards their degrees, and create more flexibility for both students and faculty. The change will also help with scheduling study abroad and internships. It will be an 8- to 10-year process. Initial steps will boost summer enrollments. The dean expects a number of the courses to be in the Colleges of Liberal Arts and Science. Discussion followed.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Welch
Administrative Assistant to the Dean