

Minutes

Faculty Assembly 12 November 2004

School of Liberal Arts

Present: Aponte, Bandele, Barrows, Bersier, Blomquist, Burke, M., Carlin, Craig, Davis, T., Duerksen, Dwyer, Eberl, Ford, Freeman, Gardner, Gertz, Gibau, Goff, Goldfinger, Goodsell, Grant, Gronfien, Haas, L., Harrington, Harris, Hayes, Hoegberg, Howard, Kloesel, Kryder-Reid, Lindseth, Long, Lovejoy, Miller, Mullen, Mullins, Murday, Nagelhout, Niklas, Oukada, Powell, Robertson, Shepherd, Souch, Spechler, Sutton, R., Sutton, S., Thuesen, Trotter, Vermette, Ward, Wheeler, White, Wills, Wittberg, Wright, Zimmerman

1. CALL TO ORDER

SusanMarie Harrington called the Faculty Assembly to order at 2:01pm

2. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

President Harrington noted that the agenda presented included one item not listed on the previously-circulated agenda (New Business: Principles of Undergraduate Learning revisions. The agenda was unanimously accepted.

[SEE BELOW FOR ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING, #5]

3. DEAN'S REMARKS (Robert White)

Note: the PowerPoint slides from Dean White's presentation are archived with the Agenda and Minutes of this meeting.

Dean White indicated that he would be focusing his comments on budget and financial issues and elaborated on the information conveyed by the charts and graphs in his presentations. He summed up the Campaign for IUPUI as a "great success," acknowledging that some had seen a disconnect between the reported financial problems and all the monies raised. Much of the money that had been raised was earmarked for specific departments, centers and programs. Most of that money was already committed, although it remains important providing for Chairs and scholarships.

In reviewing the expenses and revenue charts, Dean White emphasized that SLA is "not in a financial crisis at the moment." He drew particular attention to the bar graph for "Revenue (excluding appropriations and assessments) and Expenses" for the fiscal years 98-99 to 03-04 pointing out that Revenue was increasingly exceeding Expenses. The difficulty was that "assessments" (which come in as "negative revenue") were outpacing the state appropriations and as of 2001-2002, the School had entered an "upside-down situation" where the assessments were larger than the appropriations. This was true even though (in answer to a question) he noted that overall appropriations actually increased slightly last year. (He reminded the Faculty that Assessments go to cover the cost of non-revenue producing units such as the Library and UITS as well as PeopleSoft). We are not the only school in this situation (Science is worse off) and more schools are starting to "cross the line." In answer to a question, Dean White indicated that the administration

is starting to listen to faculty concerns about this. Dean White continued by commenting on the SLA Reserve Fund (we are required to have a 3% reserve) which is currently in good shape.

Dean White took time to explain increases in the assessments, pointing to various programs and centers that had been started (Center for Service and Learning and Office for Professional Development) as well as having to cover increased insurance cost for the UITS workers. PeopleSoft was clearly another expenditure with ongoing annual costs. Last year the Financial Planning and Advisory Committee raised questions about what administrative costs could be cut, but the Committee has since been disbanded

Martin Spechler reminded the Assembly that the State no longer gives money to cover building upkeep. While the Law School got some, the Campus will need to cover the costs of new facilities such as Herron and ICTC.

Dean White also reported on recommendations from the Resources and Planning Committee indicating some discussion over *indirect cost recoveries* (different Schools handle these costs differently). He broke off at this point to announce (and congratulate) David Ford on his appointment as the Associate Dean of Research and Graduate Programs before continuing to comment on places to cut. One of the possible areas was *graduate fee remissions* with a recommendation that these could be capped. Dean White cautioned that in the past departments had proposed new graduate programs with the understanding that there would be no added costs, but that the programs had not worked out that way. "We cannot continue to expand as we have," concluded Dean White and advised that there would likely be some change here. He also discussed the proposal to cap *summer salaries*, but said (at present) change did not seem warranted since some people had made adjustments for summer 2005. He continued that the issue would be revisited and hoped to know by the January Faculty Assembly about changes for 2006.

And, on a positive note, Dean White indicated that Mike Scott says that computer upgrades are ongoing, even if slowed down somewhat.

Discussion ensued primarily over the issue of indirect cost recovery with Eric Wright reporting on the Medical School's model and Philip Goff pointing to the financial need that Centers have (as opposed to Departments) to use such costs to cover secretarial assistance, etc.

At this point, President Harrington proposed moving the report from Committee Business-Resources and Planning up and the Assembly voted to suspend the agenda to permit this.

For the Committee, Martin Spechler reported that the Committee had not voted as a committee for changes, but had identified the possibilities since it was the Dean's responsibility to make the decisions. He concluded that the financial situation was "serious" and that the prospective \$600,000 shortfall would eat up our reserves.

President Harrington asked for questions or indications of the will of the faculty. Dean White clarified that the difficulty is not the assessments per se, but how late it is before deans know by how much the assessments will be increased in order to plan for the shortfall. Science has not been replacing lines. In response to a question from Eric Wright as to who reviews the AO's budget,

Christian Kloesel indicated that past history had not been encouraging about having that question answered. President Harrington suggested then the Assembly indicating to Rosalie Vermette that the Faculty Council raise this concern.

4. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS (SusanMarie Harrington)

President Harrington then reported on one of the primary issues facing the School of Liberal Arts- the Mission Differentiation Project. Liberal Arts has been well represented there and is working to make sure that the document is comprehensive and notes that we serve the Campus with general education courses as well as offer advanced degrees and support research. She also suggested that, when possible, SLA members make sure that attention is drawn to working conditions in Cavanaugh. It apparently ranks first on the Campus and 8th in the University for renovations.

She extended thanks to Nancy Marie Robertson for agreeing to serve as the Acting Secretary while Kim White-Mills is on leave and to the Department of Political Science for setting up chairs. She noted that the Philosophy department will be next up for set up duty.

5. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING

At this point, President Harrington asked for further corrections to the minutes from the 1 October 2004 Assembly (some corrections have been previously submitted by e-mail). The departmental affiliation of one new faculty member was corrected.) . The minutes, as corrected, were unanimously accepted.

6. REPORTS FROM FACULTY COUNCIL/UNIVERSITY FACULTY COUNCIL

Reports from the UFC and the FC will generally be circulated ahead of time so that people can have time to think about them and bring questions and comments.

Reporting on the UFC, Martin Spechler indicated that there was ongoing discussion of three important issues, although none had yet come to a vote at the Councils: the mission differentiation statement, the review of the Chancellor and the Student Code. SLA's representatives on the Councils will keep the Assembly advised as the issues become pressing. He also advised the Assembly of the Indiana Governor's Efficiency Commission's report to the Higher Education Commission recommending an expansion of Ivy Tech and that Vincennes offer 4-year degrees. He added that the Commission would be having open hearings on campus in early December and that it be important that SLA point out that such changes might not be cheaper as well as noting the quality of education IUPUI offers and the studies which indicate students here are more likely to finish.

In response to the report on the FC, there was commentary on the role of SLA in the aspects of IUPUI's mission associated with P-12 education and lifelong learning and meeting the "region's economic, social, and cultural needs."

7. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

7A. Committee on Academic Standards and Policies

Reporting for the Committee, Bill Blomquist offered the following:

‘We propose adding the phrase ‘or certificate’ to [the requirement for Area III]:
For students, pursuing a double major, double degree, minor, or certificate: Four (4) courses from the second program may count toward this requirement.”

He explained that this mean that Certificate programs would be essentially treated like double majors. Rick Ward observed that, in fact, require more hours than minors.

The motion carried unanimously

7B. Nominating Committee

President Harrington, for the Committee, indicated a lack of clarity in the Bylaws as to how to determine who should fill a vacancy and who should serve a full term and reported that:

“The Nominating Committee proposes that the two individuals with the highest vote totals take on the 2-year terms and the individual with the third highest total take on the current academic year term.”

The motion passed unanimously

The Nominating Committee reported that ballots will arrive shortly, but that the slate for Faculty Council will be:

Carol Gardner
William Schneider
Nathan Houser
William Touponce
Wendy Morrison
Brian Vargas

7C. Faculty Affairs Committee

The Promotion and Tenure Guidelines were distributed ahead of time. They are also available on the Faculty Assembly website

<http://liberalarts.iupui.edu/facultyassembly/>

Comments can be directed to Mary Trotter, chair of the Committee:

matrotte@iupui.edu
CA 502
274-8817

Mary Trotter presented the revised SLA guidelines for Promotion and Tenure drawing particular

attention to the issue of lecturers, applied research, and joint or adjunct appointments (where the committee had made the greatest number of changes). Discussion focused upon the Guidelines rather than the "Promotion Criteria for Lecturers" which will be discussed at the January 2005 Assembly. President Harrington reminded members that the ultimate authority was the *IU Handbook*. Discussion ensued on the questions of scholarly editing as applied research, who were the appropriate "peers" to assess impact of public scholarship, and the kinds of "external" letters necessary for demonstrating excellence in teaching. It was pointed out that some of the wording was necessary (particularly for external assessments of teaching) was necessary to comply with Campus Guidelines. In some cases (including assessment of lecturers), SLA is seeking to provide leadership to the Campus as the latter works out its guidelines.

Michael Burke, current chair of the SLA P&T Committee has worked closely to advise Faculty Affairs on what the P&T Committee has encountered and commended the Faculty Affairs Committee for "yeomen's work."

Mary Trotter welcomed additional input to the Committee on the wording. President Harrington expressed the gratitude of the Assembly to the Committee. The Assembly will discuss the Promotion Criteria for Lecturers (necessitated by the Trustees' Lectureships) as well as the overall Guidelines at the January 2005 meeting, so they can be in effect for those going for promotion and/or tenure in 2005-2006.

8) NEW BUSINESS

8A: Committee on Teaching and Advising

Ursula Niklas, Chair of the Committee on Teaching and Advising, announced the Assembly's Celebration of Teaching. In introducing the honoree, she spoke of the challenges of teaching the idea of education as a "turning around the whole person." She commended both the "teaching excellence of individual faculty and the breadth of educational projects that our colleagues pursue." She paid particular attention to the passion that faculty have in "learning how to teach," and noted the variety of efforts to design new and redesign existing courses. A list of teaching highlights can be found at <http://liberalarts.iupui.edu/facultyassembly/downloads/TeachingHighlights03-04.pdf>

8B: Principles of Undergraduate Learning.

President Harrington notes that the Program Review and Assessment Committee and the Center for Integrating Learning have requested feedback from Schools on proposed revisions to the Principles of Undergraduate Learning. Given the lateness of the hour, this matter will be referred to an appropriate committee and comments from the faculty as a whole will be solicited via e-mail.

9. ADJOURNMENT

President SusanMarie Harrington invited a motion to adjourn and the meeting adjourned at 3:55pm. All were invited to join in a reception in Celebration of Teaching immediately following.

Respectfully submitted by Nancy Marie Robertson 11/28/04