

Minutes of the SLA Faculty Assembly Meeting
January 27, 2006

Present: Andersen, Aponte, Barrows, Bilodeau, Bingham, Bivin, Blomquist, Brant, M. Burke, Carlin, Cochrane, Craig, Cramer, T. Davis, DeWaal, D'Etienne, Dickerson-Putman, Eller, Fedor, Ford, S. Fox, Freeman, Gardner, Gibau, Glidden, Goff, Goldfinger, Gronfein, Grossman, Houser, Hovde, G. Hoyt, Hyatt, K. Johnson, Karnick, Kloesel, Kostroun, Kovacik, Kubitschek, Lovejoy, B. McDonald, McKivigan, Miller, Parrish-Sprowl, Pegg, Powell, N. Robertson, Scarpino, Schultz, Shepherd, Steinberg, R. Sutton, S. Sutton, Thorington-Springer, Thuesen, Ward, Weeden, R. Wheeler, Whitchurch, White-Mills, A. Williams, J. Wilson, Wittberg, Wokeck, Yonogi

1. **Call to Order:** Susanmarie Harrington called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM.
2. **Acceptance of the Agenda**
3. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the November 18, 2005, SLA Faculty Assembly were approved without corrections.
4. **President's Remarks:** President Harrington noted that her remarks would be brief in order to allow time for the discussion of the restructuring. She welcomed Associate Dean Marianne Wokeck.
5. **Dean's Remarks:** Associate Dean Richard Ward presented Dean White's remarks in his absence. He, too, welcomed Associate Dean Wokeck to the position. A search is presently underway for the director of the Santayana Program; in the Sociology and Film Studies searches, offers have been made to candidates, while the Spanish search is currently inviting candidates to campus. The Anthropology Department anticipates interviewing candidates in February. Dean White anticipates all the searches will be concluded by the spring break. Also, the campus has attracted Professor John Stanfield from Bloomington as the first full-time appointment in African-American and African Diaspora Studies. He is also a sociologist and will be teaching in that program. Our credit hours are up 1.3%, and our head count is up 2.7%, or 40 majors. This is relatively unusual across the campus; engineering, for example, declined by 234 majors. Finally, Associate Dean Ward reminded everyone of the scholarship application deadlines on February 1 and encouraged all to attend the January 30 campus meeting on the proposed IU restructuring.
6. **Committee Business:**

Academic Affairs: Associate Dean Ward noted that, in the case of petitions for grade changes, the petition is sent first to the instructor and the department. Dean Ward urged chairs to return these forms; if not, Academic Affairs must deal with them, which wastes time.

Academic Standards and Policies:

The committee proposed that the number of elective hours from outside Liberal Arts and Science that students could use toward a Liberal Arts degree be raised from 9 to 15. This would help students transferring from another major, and would also simplify our current elective policy.

During the discussion of this matter, President Harrington observed that a quorum of 58 faculty members was not present. After consulting Robert's Rules of Order, parliamentarian Johnny Goldfinger informed the President that a quorum is absolutely required for the conduct of committee business. He and Danna Kostroun then left the meeting in order to persuade colleagues in the building to attend the meeting. In the meantime, the discussion of the committee's motion was temporarily set aside.

Secretary Wittberg took the opportunity to announce that Bill Blomquist had been elected to the vacant Promotion and Tenure position, replacing Marianne Wokeck. Jennifer Thorington-Springer had already been elected to the Nominating Committee, filling the vacancy left by Eric Wright's departure.

Since a quorum still was not present, the Assembly turned to another item not requiring action. Reporting for the Academic Standards and Policies Committee, Associate Dean Ward reported that a revised code of student conduct has been approved for Indiana University and has been posted on the web. We need to come up with a mechanism for adjudicating student misconduct disputes. The Academic Standards and Policies Committee urges that the charge of the Academic Affairs Committee be amended in order to establish a new School procedure for handling academic misconduct disputes (under the proposed procedure, appeals could be handled by an ac hoc committee of faculty and students). A proposal to amend the committee charge will be circulated and voted on by secure electronic ballot before the next Faculty Assembly meeting.

Once a quorum had been achieved, the Assembly returned to the Academic Standards and Policies Committee motion regarding electives. After a friendly amendment from Robert Sutton, the following motion was unanimously passed: *The committee moves that the number of hours that may be accepted from any other school on campus or accredited university be expanded from the current 9 hours to 15 hours, and that the remaining credit hours be restricted to coursework taken in School of Liberal Arts, the School of Science, the Herron School of Art, or the School of Journalism, or equivalent transfer credits.*

Agenda Council:

President Harrington proposed several minor wording changes in the bylaws to allow for electronic voting. These changes are attached to this document. The changes were unanimously accepted.

Undergraduate Curriculum Committee:

An extended discussion followed the committee's introduction of guidelines for preparing syllabi for new course approvals. The guidelines were remanded to the committee, who were asked to consider two issues: what does the committee need to know in order to approve a course, and what useful guidelines might we share to aid faculty in constructing syllabi? As the Committee on Committees has suggested that the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee and the Academic Standards and Policies Committee merge their charges, it is a timely moment for the committees to consider how their work might be streamlined and communicated to the rest of the faculty.

Julie Freeman presented a proposal for changes in the current International Studies Minor. The changes would make the minor more flexible, and would ease the upgrade from minor to new major in IS if students wish. The current minor requires 15 credit hours, a second year of foreign language (not counted in the 15 credits), Pols Y219, and 12 credit hours in at least three departments, focusing on a single theme or geographic area. The proposed revision also requires 15 credit hours and a second year of foreign language (not counted in the 15 credits). It also requires I100, 3 credits of either Anthropology A104, Geography G110, History H109, or Political Science Y219, and 9 additional credits of electives from approved IS area/theme lists. This proposal was unanimously approved.

7. Discussion on University Restructuring:

An hour-long discussion followed on the proposed restructuring of the chancellors' responsibilities for the seven IU campuses. Bart Ng, President of the IUPUI Faculty Council, attended for part of the discussion.

The following concerns were raised:

IUPUI has no advocate under the new plan: no president, no board of trustees, and the IUPUI chancellor's time will be taken up with the other campuses. If making the IUB chancellor responsible for the other campus didn't work, why should we expect it to work for the IUPUI chancellor?

The trustees' statement removes the Med School from IUPUI, and IUB will claim all of the indirects and all the PhD programs. This will demote IUPUI to second class citizenship and be detrimental to Indianapolis' efforts to attract new business here. IUPUI was first created because of corporate interests in Indianapolis wanting a university here. This restructuring will go against the original reason IUPUI was founded.

The split between IUPUI and the Med School fractures our recently-approved mission statement and our life sciences mission. We will destroy the whole fabric of IUPUI if the med school and KSB are shifted to Bloomington. They are our colleagues.

The following recommendations were made to be presented to Bart Ng at the Monday campus meeting:

The insistence on research at IUPUI needs to be kept and made clear – especially its link to the life sciences.

We are IU's public university – emphasize how we serve all the public here. We are in the capital region and we do applied and policy research. We are more connected to the economic development of the state than IUB is. If the restructuring undercuts IUPUI's ability to do this, it will hurt the state.

Indiana needs a research university in Indianapolis.

We need an administrator on this campus who is responsible for research, international programs, graduate programs; one who would report directly to the president, not go through Bloomington.

We must put forward our own self-definition. Avoid using Bloomington standards for how to measure a “good” university. There should be no discussion -- Indiana *needs* a university in its capital city. We shouldn't even need to discuss IUB's role.