

Minutes of the School of Liberal Arts Faculty Assembly

Friday, April 20, 2001

Present: Aponte, Bao, Barrows, Bilodeau, Brant, J. Burke, Cherry, Cochrane, Connor, Cramer, K. Davis, Deb, Dickerson-Putman, Dobris, Eller, Ferguson, Ford, Freeman, Goering, L. Haas, Harrington, Harris, Heathorn, Howard, Kirk, Kloesel, Kovacik, Langsam, Lovejoy, McGeever, Molinder-Hogue, Osili, Oukada, Parrish-Sprock, Rangazas, Rebein, Robertson, Rooney, Saatkamp, Sanchez, Sandwina, Schneider, Schrader, Shepherd, Sherrill, Snodgrass, Souch, Steinberg, R. Sutton, S. Sutton, Tilley, Trotter, Turner, Upton, Ward, White, White-Mills, Wilhelm, Wilkins, Wittberg, Wokeck, Wright

1. Call to order and acceptance of minutes.

President **Kloesel** called the Assembly to order at 2:02pm.

Kloesel asked for corrections or changes to the minutes from the meeting of March 9, 2001. Hearing none, the minutes were approved unchanged.

2. Dean's remarks.

a. *Budget Issues.* Opening with a quotation from Darwin on cyclical repetition, Dean **Saatkamp** began his remarks on the budget. He noted that he had communicated with chairs about department budgets and spoke on the salary increases for the 2001-02 year. Due to unresolved factors which still needed to be taken into account, he was not certain of the amount of the increase, but he knew that the percentage would not be what he would like. He pledged to give the best possible increase.

b. *Faculty Gifts.* The Dean was please to note that two significant gifts had been made to the School of Liberal Arts by its faculty. The first was the **Langsam-Oswald Summer Fellowship** and the second was the first endowed chair in the School, a chair for German-American Studies, generously funded in part by Giles and Dolores **Hoyt**.

c. *Enrollments.* **Saatkamp** was also encouraged by a very positive increase in student credit hours this year and a noticeable improvement in student satisfaction with teaching and advising.

d. *Recognition of Volunteers.* The Dean formally recognized faculty who participated with IUPUI's Campus Day: E. Ardemagni (FLAC), E. Brennan (FLAC), K Cutler (HIST), D. Ford (SOC), S. Shepherd (ENG), M. Trotter (ENG), and M. Wokeck (HIST). Each faculty member was given a special SLA name tag in appreciation for their service.

3. **President's remarks.**

a. *Thanks.* The President thanked all faculty members for a busy and gratifying year of activities and singled out for recognition his predecessor, **S. Sutton** (ANTH), the members of the SLA Agenda Council and the Chairs of the SLA committees, the Faculty Council representatives, and the Secretary.

b. *Elections.* **Kloesel** reported results of the most recent election. **P. Carlin** (ECON) was elected secretary, **U. Niklas** (PHIL) was elected to the Agenda Council, **C. Gardner** (SOC) and **N. Houser** (PHIL) were elected to the Promotion and Tenure Committee, and **E. Andersen** (POLS) and **P. Mullins** (ANTH) were elected to the Nominating Committee. **C. ROY** (ENG) was elected to the University Faculty Council and **D. Ford** (SOC), **L. Oukada** (FLAC), and **C. Roy** (ENG) were also elected to Faculty Council.

The President reminded the Assembly that an election for the Enhancement Review Committee would be held by separate ballot since only tenured faculty may vote.

c. *Reminders.* **Kloesel** encouraged committee chairs to submit their written reports to the secretary at their earliest possible convenience. The President also requested that all faculty return the preference sheet for the 2001-02 committee assignments by the deadline stipulated. And finally, **Kloesel** reminded faculty that a promotion & tenure workshop would be held on Wednesday, April 25 from 12:30 - 2:00pm.

4. **Approval of Graduation List.**

Dean **Langsam** distributed a preliminary list of May and August graduates. The motion to approve was postponed until later in the meeting so that faculty could peruse the list.

5. **Faculty Awards.**

With great pleasure, the Dean awarded **R. Ward** (ANTH) with the Outstanding Resident Faculty Award for 2001. Noting **Ward's** exceptional achievements in research, teaching, and service, and quoting from testimonials of his impact on students, the Dean led the faculty in a highly appreciative ovation for Professor **Ward**.

President **Kloesel** made the presentation of the award for Outstanding Associate Faculty to **J. Powell** (ENG), whose list of accomplishments included excellent student evaluations, many publications of his work, and course development. Mr. **Powell**, too, rose to accept the acclaim of his colleagues.

6. Trustees Teaching Awards.

J. **Burke** (ECON), chair of the Teaching and Advising Committee, announced the recipients of the Trustees Teaching Awards. The full-time faculty winners were E. **Ardemangi** (FLAC), S. **Harrington** (ENG), R. **Harris** (ECON), S. **Heathorn** (HIST), J. **Wilson** (GEOG), and E. **Wright** (SOC). R. **Sandwina** (COMM) and A. **Williams** (ENG) were the awardees from among SLA's lecturers.

7. Announcement of Promotions and Tenure.

Dean White announced that W. **deBoer** (HIST), J. **Burke** (ECON), S. **Heathorn** (HIST), E. **Wright** (SOC) were promoted to Associate professor with tenure, and C. **Roy** (ENG) was awarded tenure. Promoted to Professor were C. **Gardner** (SOC), L. **Oukada** (FLAC), P. **Rangazas** (ECON), and R. **White** (SOC).

8. Recognition of Retirees.

R. **Sherrill** spoke on the significant contributions made by his colleague, C. **Cherry**. He highlighted Prof. Cherry's accomplishments, including his work at the Center for the Study of Religious and American Culture, his long and distinguished list of publications, and his status as Distinguished Professor in the IU system.

R. **Sandy** gave a tribute to his colleague, R. **Kirk**, whose retirement marked a milestone in the history of the Department of Economics at IUPUI. Since arriving at IUPUI in 1972, Prof. Kirk is credited with an exemplary record of scholarship, teaching, and service and was recognized for having created an atmosphere conducive to active research activity in the early years of the School of Liberal Arts.

9. Committee Business.

a. *Curriculum Committee*. S. **Schrader** (COMM) spoke on the proposed Master's degree program in Applied Communication. With its 33 credit hours of work, the program has an interdisciplinary, collaborative focus and allows students to select from three concentrations: health, media, and corporate communication. He noted that the Resources and Planning Committee had already voiced its approval of the program for the School. The program was put to a vote and passed unanimously.

b. *Faculty Affairs Committee*. J. **Tilley** (PHIL) brought a proposal to the Assembly for changes to the SLA Promotion and Tenure Guidelines (see attachment). One change was to modernize the language under "General Issues." A second recommendation was to instruct candidates to include a detailed table of contents for their dossiers. The third proposed change required the inclusion of all external letters of support that are received and the stipulation that authors of external letters "with academic appointments should hold at least the rank for which the candidate is being considered."

R. **Sherrill** (REL) remarked that frequently the rank of external reviewers is less important than the up-to-date quality of their scholarship. He provided the example of the possibly outdated perspective of a full professor, versus the evaluation of a cutting-edge associate professor.

R. **Steinberg** (ECON) offered a solution by adding the word “Ordinarily” to the beginning of the proposal’s final sentence. R. **Sandy** (ECON) moved to amend the proposal by including “exceptions to this rule must be justified” at the end of the final sentence. The amendment was accepted and the committee’s proposed changes were approved.

c. *Enhancement Review Committee.* R. **Turner** (ENG) was pleased to announce that there had been no business for the committee in the year because no faculty member had been identified as having performed at an unsatisfactory level.

d. *Technical Services Committee.* R. **Sutton** (FLAC) summarized the committee’s achievements in the year. He reported that there had been an increase in laptop computers for short-term use, a major upgrade in the Nursing Building classroom used for film study courses had been completed, small tech grants had been awarded to faculty in SLA, and the committee had received six applications for large faculty research grants.

e. *Bylaws Committee.* H. **Wilkins** (ENG) presented the reworked bylaws of the Assembly and summarized the major and minor changes. Noting that a very important change had already been approved by the Assembly - the change in the nominating Committee’s selection and structure -, Wilkins indicated that most of the other changes were made to give the document greater readability and consistency.

R. **White** (SOC) inquired why the proposed document deleted the bylaw stipulation that the minutes of the Curriculum Committee be kept by the Dean’s representative on the committee. He emphasized that particular committee’s need for good record keeping. **Klosel** responded that there was a general rule at the start of the article that *all* committees keep accurate records of their activities.

The revised bylaws were approved without amendment.

f. *Standards & Policies Committee.* S. **Heathorn** (HIST) began with two information items. First, he noted that it had come to light this year that there were problems with course syllabuses (information missing or inaccurate) and that some faculty did not even use a syllabus. He reminded all faculty that it is the School’s policy that students be provided with a syllabus for each course. Second, he told the Assembly that the “Diversity Statement” for SLA is still being drafted. It will be presented to the faculty in Fall 2001.

Heathorn then offered a proposal to the Assembly (see attachment) on substitutions for the Junior Integrator Course and turned the floor over to R. **White** for further explanation. White voiced his approval of the basic idea behind it, but the stated justification that there were too few sections was an exaggeration, considering that only one student so far has had trouble getting into an integrator course.

W. **Schneider** (HIST) asked about the mechanism for making substitutions and who would ultimately decide whether a certain course may stand in for the integrator. Dean **Langsam** replied that it must be an Area III substitute and must be accompanied by a "Waiver of School Requirement" form.

L. **Haas** (SOC) inquired whether the integrator or its substitute may be taken pass/fail. **Langsam** answered that it could not.

R. **Sherrill** (REL) asked for a clarification on the substitution. Since the substituted course must be outside the student's major, he asked whether it must come from within the School of Liberal Arts or from an approved list of courses outside of the school. Following up on Sherrill's question, S. **Sutton** (ANTH) wondered if the issue has been discussed with the School of Science. **White** responded that since we were only talking about SLA requirements, it did not affect the SOS. He hastened to add, however, that we should, in all fairness, inform the SOS of our decision.

The proposal was amended to read as follows: "Any substitute for the Junior Level integrator Course should be at the 300 level or higher, outside the student's major, and selected from courses within the School of Liberal Arts, School of Science, or a list of approved courses in other schools. The course may not be taken for pass/fail credit."

The amended proposal was approved.

g. *Retention and Recruitment Committee*. K. **Davis** (ENG) informed the Assembly that the committee had produced a 21-page report which will appear on the School's web page. He summarized the committee's findings (see attachment) and noted that at this time, retention seemed to be a more pressing concern than recruitment because recruitment fell outside the purview of the SLA. He added that several issues must be clarified, and recommended that the School keep in mind that "retention" involved three principal areas: 1) the retention of full-time first-time students past the first year; 2) the retention of first-year students in SLA courses; and 3) the retention of SLA majors to graduation.

Dean **Saatkamp** thanked the committee for its fine and thorough report. He added that the number of SLA direct admits will double to about 60 for the following year. He suggested that departments follow up on new students to help them make it through the first year and provide them with a sense of an

academic home. He cautioned faculty, however, that the published statistics on the number of SLA majors were false because many of those students included are really in the University College. K. **Davis** requested that the Dean provide the committee with a written explanation of those statistics to include in the committee's report.

10. Reports from the IUPUI and University Faculty Councils.

S. **Sutton** (ANTH) reported on discussions at the IUPUI Faculty Council. She informed the Assembly that the financial problems associated with the 18/20 retirement plan were not improving because the attempts to encourage faculty to delay activation of the plan were not very successful. Sutton also noted that there was much discussion on research with human subjects and that it was proposed that those faculty involved in such research take a web-based exam on the issues involved. A vote on this proposal will occur at the May 3rd meeting. The question of the sale of tobacco products on campus will also be dealt with at that time.

R. **Ward** (ANTH) reported on the UFC meeting. He indicated that they, too, had discussed the 18/20 problems. He informed the Assembly that notification will come in the Fall of 2001 on the auto-transfer of 100-200 level courses. A contentious issue from the last meeting on the creation of rank levels for non-tenure track faculty had been resolved with the adoption of the two-tier model. Ward also noted that there was some discussion on where tenure rests: the campus where the faculty is in residence, or the campus where the school is in residence.

W. **Schneider** (HIST) asked whether the UFC had discussed the partial family leave issue which was up for renewal. Ward responded that the latest information he has is that the UFC is in favor of keeping it, up to 75%. S. **Harrington** (ENG) informed the Assembly that the plan had already been approved by the IU Trustees.

11. Old Business.

The motion to approve the list of May and August graduates was approved.

12. New Business.

Dean **Langsam** presented a proposal for a common policy on probation, dismissal and reinstatement between SLA, SOS, and UC (see attachment). There was no discussion of the motion and it was approved.

M. **Wokeck** (HIST) informed the Assembly that the AAUP has invited the IU Trustees to meet with the faculty for an open discussion and question session.

13. Adjournment.

After reminding faculty of the reception honoring his year's retirees and those who have won awards, President **Kloesel** adjourned the meeting at 3:42pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Herbert J. Brant, Secretary
5-12-01