

# Minutes of the School of Liberal Arts Faculty Assembly

Friday, September 29, 2000

**Present:** Andersen, Anderson, Antón, Aponte, Ardemagni, Bao, Barrows, Bertrand, Bivin, Brant, Burke, Carlin, Cochrane, Craig, Cramer, Cutler, K. Davis, T. Davis, DiCamilla, Dickerson-Putman, Dwyer, Eller, Ferguson, Ford, Freeman, García, Goff, Gronfein, Grossmann, Guo, A. Haas, Hamilton, Harrington, Hoegberg, Hovde, Howard, W. Jackson, Kirk, Kloesel, Kryder-Reid, Langsam, Lovejoy, McCormick, McDonald, Molinder-Hogue, Mullen, Mullins, Newton, Nnaemeka, Oukada, Parrish-Sprowl, Rebein, Robertson, Roy, Saatkamp, Sánchez, Sandy, Sauer, Schneider, Schrader, Schultz, Shepherd, Sherrill, Snodgrass, Souch, Stahl, R. Sutton, Trotter, Upton, White, White-Mills, Wilkins, A. Williams, Wilson, Wittberg, Wokeck.

1. Call to order and acceptance of minutes.

President Kloesel called the Assembly to order at 2:05 p.m. The President announced the time and location for the Calling and Funeral for Dean Joseph **Taylor** and asked that, to honor his memory, the Assembly observe a moment of silence.

The President also requested unanimous consent to add an item to the agenda under committee business. Consent was given.

Kloesel then asked for changes and amendments to the minutes from the meeting of April 28, 2000. Hearing none, the minutes were approved unchanged.

2. Introduction of new faculty.

Dean Saatkamp began the presentation with a few words of welcome, emphasizing the superb quality of the newly recruited members of the faculty. He then called on department chairs to make their formal introductions.

The new regular faculty members are **Gina Sánchez**, Anthropology; **John Parrish-Sprowl**, Communications Studies; **Peter Bloom**, English (to begin January 2001); **Gustavo García**, FLAC-Spanish; **Owen Dwyer**, Geography; **Kevin Cramer** and **Michael Snodgrass**, History; **David Craig** and **Philip Goff**, Religious Studies.

New visiting faculty are **Rebecca Ruhlen**, Anthropology; **William Chin** and **Shah Towfighi**, Economics; **Brian McDonald**, **Mary Beth O'Shea**, and **David Sabol**, English.

New Future Faculty Teaching Fellows (FFTF) are **Kelly Carter** and **Kathleen Roberts**, Communication Studies; **Ji Qun Guo**, Economics; **Robert Grimm** and **William Nixon**, History; and Suzanne **Goodney**, Sociology.

3. Dean's remarks.

Dean Saatkamp, noting that he had already presented a "State of the School" address at the Fall Convocation, limited his remarks to a few miscellaneous issues.

He indicated, with pleasure, that the School is in "very good shape" in terms of the quality of its teaching, research, and service.

He added that the "Capital Campaign" for the School is doing well, boasting that 90% of the \$3,000,000 goal had already been reached. He expected that the School would exceed its goal within the year. Continuing on the same topic, the Dean indicated that while 1.2 million dollars last year had gone to improving student scholarships, he hoped that this year's gifts could focus more on the development of professorships.

With respect to enrollments, the Dean was delighted to announce that the projected shortfall of 3% in credit hour income had not occurred and that, in fact, the School was almost 2% above last year's numbers. He warned that whatever extra income we had this semester would need to be applied to the deficit caused by the unfortunate drop in credit hours for last year's spring semester.

The Dean then thanked all those faculty members who had, in the past year, assisted with the School's retention and recruitment efforts. Particularly meritorious were those who had volunteered to help at the Indiana Black Expo: **G. Shaker**, **S. Fox**, **M. Langsam**, **G. Plater**, **R. Sandy**, **R. White**, **K. White-Mills**, and **P. Wittberg**.

On the less positive side, the Dean signaled several problems still facing the School. He indicated his concern over what seems to be a fairly consistent pattern in enrollments for the School: the fall semester always seems to remain somewhat consistent, while enrollments for the spring semester tend to show a dramatic drop. He reminded the faculty that most of the emergency funds that had been set aside were used up last spring to compensate for the shortfall of approximately 1880 credit hours.

The Dean explained that although some of the loss last Spring may have been due to the community college teaching some of the developmental courses that we have traditionally taught, there seems to be no explanation for the drop in credit hours at the intermediate (200) level and advanced (300-400) levels. The Dean

suggested that everyone think carefully about ways to ensure healthy retention between the fall and spring semesters.

Dean Saatkamp then spoke about faculty pay raises, noting that last year's increase was dismal— a 1.97% average increase, including increases for promotions. The Dean stated that one of his primary goals was to get pay raises back on schedule and that to do so would require a freeze on any new faculty positions. He reiterated that his two major priorities were to give “solid” raises this year and to balance the School budget.

Regarding graduate programs, the Dean was very pleased to announce that the Master's degree in Sociology had finally been approved by the Indiana Higher Education Commission and that the IU Trustees were ready to endorse four more programs. The identity of IUPUI and the School of Liberal Arts is clearly undergoing a significant positive change, he noted.

To conclude, the Dean mentioned that course minima were certainly something that we will have to accept and come to terms with. He indicated that, for the time being, there would be no changes in the present levels and that, in all likelihood, discussions to increase the minima will probably mandate even higher levels in future. He noted that this was a national trend in higher education, along with such issues as common descriptions and numbers for courses offered in the state.

#### 4. President's remarks.

President Kloesel opened his remarks by noting the conspicuous absence of the former president, Susan **Sutton**. He joked that her absence was due to a conference, rather than a desire to comment on the day's proceedings.

Kloesel then announced the results of elections as well as several changes in committee membership. **J. Dickerson-Putman** (ANTH) and **U. Niklas** (PHIL) were elected to serve on the Faculty Council. **G. Hoyt** (FLAC) was elected to replace **U. Connor** (ENG) for one year (only) on the Promotion & Tenure Committee. **R. Kirk** (ECON) replaced **R. Fredland** (POLS) on the Faculty Council while Fredland is on leave. **E. Ardemagni** (FLAC) has replaced **C. Gardner** (SOC) for the fall semester (only), and **K. Lovejoy** has replaced **D. Bingham** on the Curriculum Committee. Finally, **H. Wilkins** will serve as the Assembly's parliamentarian.

The President thanked all those faculty members who agreed to serve the School, and noted that it has become increasingly difficult to find willing persons to fill appointed positions and present themselves as candidates for elected positions. He suggested that department chairs could do more to impress upon their faculty members that service to the School is an important duty.

President Kloesel closed his remarks by inviting all faculty to attend the reception immediately following the meeting so that we might honor the School's new faculty and the Hamilton Lectureship awardees.

5. Committee Business.

a. *Curriculum Committee.*

In order to contextualize the several graduate programs up for debate and vote, W. **Schneider** explained the background behind the proposals. He indicated that these proposals were the work of long-range planning and the careful creativity of the School and departments involved. He added that during the past summer, the Administration requested a report on the progress of graduate programs in the School and later, the Trustees of the University endorsed the proposals that were nearing completion, and even including those programs in their budget talks. Considering that the Trustees will meet again on October 15<sup>th</sup>, Schneider explained that time was a critical factor in presenting these proposals to the faculty.

Three graduate programs and one certificate program were presented and offered for the approval of the Assembly.

1. M.S. in Geographic Information Science: unanimously approved.
2. M.A. in Museum Studies: unanimously approved.
3. M.A. in Professional and Technical Editing: unanimously approved.
4. Graduate Certificate in Museum Studies: unanimously approved.

b. *Resources & Planning Committee.*

The committee chair, P. **Carlin** (ECON), informed the Assembly that the Resources & Planning Committee offered its full and unreserved support for these programs.

c. *Teaching and Advising Committee.*

M. **Antón** (FLAC), chair of the committee, explained that D. **Bivin** (ECON) would continue to process teaching evaluations and that he has been offered support and assistance from the School to carry out this enormous project. Antón also indicated that the results from the Graduating Senior Surveys will be available in December, in time for the Faculty Annual Report.

d. *Bylaws Committee.*

President Kloesel stated that when he was elected president of the Assembly, he began his tenure by reading over the bylaws, an experience that he deemed "less than pleasing." As a result, he called upon himself, the secretary, H. **Brant** (FLAC), P. **McGeever** (POLLS), and H. **Wilkins** (ENG) to form an *ad hoc* committee to revise and refine the Assembly's bylaws.

H. Wilkins, the committee chair, then explained to the faculty what the main problems were and how they had come about over time. She indicated that there were numerous “cosmetic” changes needed to make the document more “pleasing,” as well as other more fundamental changes, such as converting the Nominating Committee to an elected standing committee. She promised that for the November meeting of the Assembly, the committee would have a draft proposal for the faculty's inspection and that she hoped that the final version of the entire document could be ready for a vote in the spring semester.

6. Location of Faculty Assembly Meetings.

President Kloesel raised the question of the location of meetings, particularly in light of the crowded situation in the Faculty-Staff Lounge on that day. He opened up the possibility of staying in CA 508, moving the meetings back to the Lilly Auditorium, or considering Lecture Hall 104 as a venue.

Several opinions were shared. P. **Wittberg** (SOC) indicated that on two occasions colleagues had spontaneously offered negative appraisals of LE 104, noting that it was “spatially problematic.” A. **Haas** (SOC), however, was very pleased with the visibility afforded by the theater seating layout. Kloesel remarked that after visiting LE 104, he found that it was not nearly as large as he had expected. Lacking any clear consensus on the issue, the President suggested that the Assembly make no change for the present.

7. Report from Faculty Council.

M. **Wokeck** (HIST) presented several of the contentious issues facing Faculty Council this year. The first issue was the “transferability of courses” (course numbers, descriptions, acceptance of courses for the major, etc.). Wokeck noted that it was the Board of Trustees' desire to resolve the problem within one year; the Faculty Council, on the other hand, indicated that it will need at least five years to iron out all the complexities of a common course system.

The second issue, campus parking, was perhaps the most volatile of the issues. Wokeck reported that because student and faculty dissatisfaction with the parking situation is so high, Parking Services has drafted a plan to make major changes. She suggested that faculty become informed of the proposed changes and get involved in the discussion of the issue.

Third, Wokeck informed the faculty that Dean Boschmann's office had drafted a “planning document” on distance learning that would involve major alterations in how it is administered and funded. She stated that the main idea was to put distance learning into Continuing Education, a move that would have major implications on the budget of the School of Liberal Arts.

Finally, Wocke mentioned that there was a plan to move the Center for Teaching and Learning into the domain of UITS. She added that if faculty members had any strong opinions on the plan, they should speak up.

Dean **Langsam** brought up several thorny issues related to distance learning. She wondered about how coursework could be evaluated by departments if a student offered a significant number of distance learning credits for the major or the degree. The issue of “residency” also would come into play, she added, inquiring about what that might do to our idea of a degree earned at IUPUI.

Kloesel mentioned that he had requested that Parking Services make a presentation to the Faculty, but that Carol Pferrer, Director of Parking, could not attend the meeting. He added, however, that S. **Osborne** in the Dean's Office and A. **Jones** in FLAC were organizing a meeting for faculty and staff to discuss the issue with Ms. Pferrer. The meeting will take place on Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 a.m. in the University Library Auditorium.

Dean Saatkamp reported that parking was going to become a major problem in the very near future. In the next two years, he noted, there would be a net loss of 2,000 parking spaces, and one of the planned changes would be to abolish the distinction between faculty and student parking permits, making the dollar amount the only difference in permits.

8. Old Business.

None.

9. New Business.

a. G. **Plater** reminded faculty that Dean's Day was scheduled for October 28 and offered a wonderful program entitled “Screening the Liberal Arts.” She added that students could attend for half price (\$15) and that they should be encouraged to attend. She also noted that there would be a series of seminars offered by the IU Foundation on estate and retirement planning on Friday October 6<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 to 11:30 in the Lilly Auditorium.

b. R. **Sutton** (FLAC), chair of the Technical Services Committee, reminded faculty that there was approximately \$40,000 from tech fees available for small faculty grants.

c. Dean Saatkamp introduced the “Sharon J. Hamilton Lectureship in Writing.” He noted that through her generosity, S. **Hamilton** (ENG), Chancellor's Professor of English, has offered partial support for a full-time lectureship in the Writing Program. Hamilton indicated that she wanted to create this lectureship to honor the people who had been so loyal to the school and to their students and who had

played such a significant part in the creation of the writing program as it exists today:

- Betty **Anderson**
- Julie **Freeman**
- Theresa **Molinder-Hogue**
- Mary **Sauer**
- Nancy **Stahl**
- Anne **Williams**

Dean Saatkamp heartily thanked S. Hamilton for the largest gift to the Department of English and for her continued commitment to scholarship, students, and colleagues.

10. President Kloesel adjourned the meeting at 3:32.

Respectfully submitted,

Herbert J. Brant, Secretary  
10-10-00