



SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS

INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Department of World Languages and Cultures
IUPUI

TO: Subir Chakrabarti
SLA Faculty Assembly

FROM: Marta Antón, Chair
SLA Resources and Planning Committee

SUBJECT: Annual Committee Report

DATE: April 6, 2012

The members of the 2011-2012 SLA Resources and Planning Committee were as follows: Marta Antón (WLAC-Chair), David Bivin (Spring-Economics), Neal Chumbler (Sociology), Chris Glidden (Anthropology), Kim White-Mills (Fall-Communications), Tim Lyons (Agenda Council Representative), Rick Hanson (SLA Administrative Officer), Dean William Blomquist. John Tilley (Philosophy) replaced two committee members that were on sabbatical for one semester: David Bivin in Fall 2011 and Kim White-Mills in Spring 2012.

The committee met monthly with Dean Blomquist and Associate Dean Hanson and fulfilled its role of providing advice to the Dean and making suggestions on matters of academic planning and allocation of resources. Two main tasks for the year were: 1) reviewing and making recommendations on Faculty Search Requests, and 2) working with the Dean in the revision of the Search Request template and the template for Department Annual Reports. Changes were made to the Faculty Search Request form so that it would allow departments to explain how new faculty would fit into the overall plan for growth or for the continuation of existing programs. The revised form for Department Annual Report provides informative data on teaching, research, and service activity, which will be useful in preparing self-studies for external reviews.

In addition, the committee was informed about the financial report of the school and the annual planning budget, and was given the opportunity to comment on it. While SLA is in good financial health, the number of credit hours has slightly decreased, particularly in courses at the one hundred and two hundred level. Increasing external research funds, increasing summer enrollment (especially enrolling students from other institutions), and attracting an adult population of students through off-campus teaching sites will benefit the school.

At the request of the campus Budget Affairs Committee, the proposals included in the New Academic Directions Report were considered, but further discussion was postponed until concrete proposals about possible school mergers develop.

Finally, the committee recommends that the review of faculty search requests be completed earlier next year so that departments may advertise positions early in the academic year. The committee also recommends that next year's committee devote some time to the development of action steps for Goal 5 of the School's Strategic Plan (Protect and promote the financial future of the School).

The chair wishes to thank the members of the committee for their regular attendance to the meetings, their collegial contributions and valuable insights for the committee's deliberations.