

Minutes of the School of Liberal Arts Faculty Assembly

Friday, November 17, 2000

Present: Andersen, Antón, Aponte, Ardemagni, Barger, Barrows, Bertrand, Brant, M. Burke, Cochrane, Cramer, K. Davis, T. Davis, Dickerson-Putman, Eller, Ford, Freeman, García, Goering, Gronfein, Harrington, Heathorn, Hoegberg, Howard, Johnson, Kirk, Kloesel, Kryder-Reid, Kubitschek, Langsam, McCormick, Marvin, Nagy, Newton, Oukada, Parrish-Sprowl, Robertson, Roy, Royalty, Saatkamp, Sandwina, Sandy, Schneider, Schrader, Shepherd, Sherrill, Souch, R. Sutton, Trotter, Wallihan, Ward, White, Wilkins, Wokeck, Wright.

1. Call to order and acceptance of minutes.

President Kloesel called the Assembly to order at 2:06 p.m.

Kloesel asked for corrections or changes to the minutes from the meeting of September 29, 2000. Hearing none, the minutes were approved unchanged.

2. Dean's remarks.

a. Master's Programs. Dean Saatkamp informed the faculty that all the M.A. programs that had been approved earlier by the Assembly had passed all the university-level stages and were now before the Indiana Council on Higher Education. The Dean noted, however, that one of the Trustees had stipulated that all programs must be fully funded by the state legislature before they may be implemented. If they are not funded, the programs must be remanded to the Trustees for further consideration. The Dean indicated that although it was unlikely that the programs would indeed be fully funded by the legislature, other options were being worked out with the administration.

b. Parking. The Dean summarized the parking situation for the near future, noting that there would be a net loss of approximately 2,000 spaces and, as a result, Parking Services had proposed raising parking fees and eliminating the system of priority reserved spaces for faculty and staff. The price issue will probably not be resolved easily, but the Dean indicated that due to intense opposition, Parking Services has backed away from eliminating priority reserved spaces.

Aponte asked if it was absolutely certain that the campus would lose 2,000 spaces. The Dean responded that because of the delay in some of the building projects, the loss of spaces will be more gradual than had been originally

expected. But, he added, parking will undoubtedly continue to be a problem in the future.

c. Copiers. The Dean stated that two of the copiers for SLA will be replaced, making all three of comparable quality. He added that a telephone will be installed in the copier room for emergency service calls, along with a list of priority staff to contact in case of copier problems. Furthermore, service people will inspect the machines at least once a week in the future.

d. Funding for Humanities. With pleasure, the Dean informed the faculty that the President had allocated \$4 million for the funding of projects in the Arts and Humanities, in part as a way to offset the decline in funding from the NEH. The application process will begin in the Spring semester.

Preliminarily, funds available per campus had been determined by the number of regular faculty, so that IUB would receive \$600,000, IUPUI would receive \$300,000 and the regional campuses would receive \$100,000 per year for the next four years.

Ward then informed the Assembly that at a Faculty Council meeting, President Brand had decided not to divide up the monies by campus, but rather to make the award process purely competitive system-wide, based on the strength of each application.

e. Enrollment issues. The Dean, although optimistic, expressed concern about the credit hour numbers for the Spring semester. He was happy to report that there was a 3% increase in enrollments at present, but he reminded the Assembly that such an increase would serve only to keep the budget balanced. If that increase were to be lost, there would be financial problems again this year. The Dean then reiterated his two principal budgetary goals: to balance the budget and to ensure “decent” faculty raises.

3. President's remarks.

President Kloesel opened his remarks by noting that the November Faculty Assembly meeting was centered on the recognition of excellent teaching in our School. He added that the particular focus this year was the pedagogical applications for technology. He thanked all those faculty who contributed to demonstrations / poster sessions prior to the meeting (including **K. Barger** (ANTH), **J. Cochrane** (COMM), **K. Cutler** (HIST), **R. Sandwina** (COMM), and **E. Wright** (SOC), as well as **W. Husted**, **J. Kramer**, **M. Scott**, and **B. Stuckey**). He also reminded the Assembly that there would be an Open House in each of the labs in Cavanaugh Hall after the meeting.

The President also reminded faculty that the Staff Appreciation Lunch will take place on Monday, November 20, from 12:00 to 1:30. To find out more or to

volunteer to help, the faculty were invited to contact the chair of the committee, **M. Trotter** (ENG).

Kloesel then gave a brief report on a meeting of the Faculty Council Executive Committee at which he presented the main issues of concern of the SLA faculty. He noted that Faculty Council will try to address those issues, and the issues of the faculties in all the Schools.

4. Committee Business.

a. *Curriculum Committee.*

Dean **White** spoke on the committee's approval of two integrator courses. He added that the Core Curriculum Committee was at work on a "template" for the creation of integrator courses and invited interested faculty to check the CLAS website. January 15, he noted, was the deadline for the submission of proposals for the Fall semester. The proposed courses were put to a vote and approved.

Dean **Langsam** reminded faculty that students who wish to sign up for an integrator course must secure prior approval. **H. Henard** has the appropriate authorization forms.

b. *Bylaws Committee.*

H. Wilkins (ENG) presented a proposal for changing the selection of the Nominating Committee (appended to the Agenda for the 11-17-00 meeting). After describing the current process and its many drawbacks, Wilkins outlined the committee's recommendations: 1) to make the Nominating Committee an elected standing committee; and 2) to guarantee the even distribution of disciplinary representation of its five members. The motion to accept the changes to the current bylaws was approved.

Wilkins then introduced a resolution for the creation of this year's Nominating Committee by means of a transitional process (appended to the Agenda for the 11-17-00 meeting).

Langsam inquired if the slate of candidates to be prepared for this year's committee will allow for multiple members from one department. Wilkins responded that the ballot will ensure that only one person per department may be elected. The resolution was then approved.

c. *Recruitment and Retention Committee.*

K. Davis (ENG), co-chair of the committee, informed the Assembly that the committee thus far had focused primarily on the issue of retention and has begun to gather and analyze data that would provide a clearer picture of SLA student retention and loss (see attached report). He added that the

committee was also looking at “service” vs. “major” courses and collecting “best practice” information on retention.

5. Report from the IUPUI Faculty Council.

M. Wokeck (HIST) highlighted the several major issues discussed at the most recent Faculty Council meeting. First on the list was the parking problem. She noted that while Parking Services is organizing off-campus parking, they will not provide shuttles after 7:00, effectively making remote parking unacceptable for night classes.

The charge to work out intercampus acceptability of courses and programs will certainly take more than the one year deadline suggested by the Board of Trustees.

The “FN” grade was also at issue. There is some question whether Schools have the right either to accept or reject the FN grade as it has been imposed by the campus administration.

R. Ward (ANTH) then reported that the University Faculty Council is concerned about the issues of the Indiana “Community College.” There is a problematic duplication and, in some cases, triplication of courses at the same level all over the state. The problem is whether any course at the 100- or 200-level with the same number must be accepted as the same at all the campuses.

6. Report from SLA Teaching Fellows.

By way of introduction, **J. Howard** (SOC) asked **R. Turner** (ENG) to explain the origins of the group. Turner spoke of the national projects with which IUPUI has become involved, notably the AAHE project on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning and the “Campus Conversations” project, and how they emphasized the need for more institutional support of teaching. Deans Saatkamp and White consulted with the Teaching and Advising Committee, and together they created the SLA Teaching Fellows. The group is composed of six fellows per year who are appointed in May or June, and they work throughout the year on the promotion and dissemination of activities related to excellent teaching.

Howard invited the faculty to attend a Brown Bag lunch meeting sponsored by the Fellows on Tuesday, November 28, from 12:00 to 1:00. The meeting will feature **R. Turner** and **L. Haas** who will make a presentation entitled “Becoming a Critically Reflective Teacher.”

7. Second Annual SLA Presentation on Teaching.

R. Ward made a powerpoint presentation entitled “Wagging the Tail of the ‘Oncourse’ Dog: Some Reflections on Teaching and Technology.” In his presentation, Ward shared with the faculty some of the wisdom he has garnered

from his use of technology in the classroom, passing along useful and insightful information for those interested in making technology a more valuable tool for teaching (see attached notes).

8. Old Business.

None.

9. New Business.

a. M. **Kubitschek** (ENG) raised an important concern that affects all faculty. She noted that the workload for faculty is steadily creeping up and, if the past is any indication of what the future will hold, the workload will continue to go up “exponentially.” While much of the work we are now asked to do is indeed valuable, there must be some “accountability” for how this work is assigned and for what purposes.

She stated that she would like to request that the SLA Faculty Affairs Committee take up the question, but she was reticent to add more work to an already heavily-burdened committee. Instead, she suggested that the Faculty Council address the quality of our work-lives and create some mechanism to stop the steadily increasing intrusion of paperwork. Kubitschek also proposed that SLA or the University compose guidelines for requests for information and/or data that departments and faculty are asked to provide.

Dean Saatkamp sympathized with Kubitschek's concerns and offered a possible technological solution: make a report every semester and make it available on the internet so that it may be searchable. The Dean also suggested that faculty may be spared some of this extra work if they channel the requests for information through his office.

b. R. **Kirk** (ECON) reminded faculty that there is a seven credit hour increase in general education under the new requirements and added that the Academic Affairs Committee will present a report and a proposal at the January meeting.

10. Following another reminder of the ensuing reception in the halls outside, President Kloesel adjourned the meeting at 3:52.

Respectfully submitted,

Herbert J. Brant, Secretary
1-3-01