

## Minutes

Faculty Assembly, School of Liberal Arts  
Lecture Hall 105, 2:00 PM, March 6, 2009

**Present:** Acevedo, Anton, Aponte, Bao, Barrows, Bein, D. Bell, L. Bell, Bennett-Edelman, Biven, Blomquist, Brant, Carlin, Chumbler, Cochrane, M. Coleman, Conner, Curtis, Davis, De Tienne, DeWester, Dicamilla, Dobris, Dwyer (recording), Eller, Foote, Ford, Freeman, Gardner, Gibau, Gronfein, A. Haas, L. Haas, Harris, Henry, Hoegberg, Jeong, Jettpace, Karnick, Kirts, Kovacik, Leech, Lindseth, Marvin, Miller, Modibo, Oukada, Pike, Polites, Pride, Rebein, Robertson, Rooney, Sandwina, Sauer, Scarpino, Schultz, I. Sheeler, K. Sheeler, Shepherd, Sim, Spector, R. Steinberg, R. Sutton, Thedwall, Thuesen, Tilley, R. Turner, Upton, Vargus, Wang, Ward, Weeden, White, White-Mills, A. Williams, Wilson, Wokeck

**Guest:** Illg

1. Call to Order—Philip Scarpino, 2:09
2. Approval of Minutes, unanimous
3. President's Remarks—Philip Scarpino asked the Assembly to join him in a moment of silence to mark the death of Suzanne Steinmetz, Professor of Sociology and Adjunct Professor of Women Studies. Afterwards, he invited Linda Haas (Sociology) to eulogize Steinmetz. In addition to noting her colleague's many professional accomplishments—scholar, editor, mentor, and activist invested in the study of marriage, violence, and gender—Haas called special attention to Steinmetz's generous spirit, energy, sense of humor, and the deep sense of loss that attends this sudden passing.
4. Dean's remarks—William Blomquist thanked Haas for the tribute to Steinmetz and noted the awkwardness of turning from Steinmetz's memory to the School's mundane affairs. Blomquist then brought the following items to the Assembly's attention.
  - i. Please consider nominating colleagues for outstanding faculty awards in the School.
  - ii. Congratulations to those faculty members who were selected as "favorite professors" by student athletes.
  - iii. Be sure to return your Impact IUPUI pledge forms to Gen Shaker. This is an opportunity to designate how those funds will be used.
  - iv. David Craig (Religious Studies) is leading IUPUI's Common Theme project for 2009-10. The chosen book is *Deep Economy* by Bill McKibben, and the common theme is "consuming well for the common good." Please share suggestions for events with David Craig.

- v. Regarding the state’s budget for higher education, the House of Representatives passed a (one-year) budget that included a one percent increase for universities; the budget is now being considered in the state Senate. In contrast, the governor’s budget called for a reduction. In addition to the budget, there is an ongoing debate over a proposal by the state’s higher education commission that would change the formula for allocating funds to schools. The commission has proposed making graduation rates, instead of enrollment numbers, as the most important factor in apportioning funds. The budget passed by the state House deleted the proposed changes to the funding formula.
- vi. Two additional handouts prepared for this meeting detail, respectively, how the federal stimulus package may affect higher education and a proposal asking campus Faculty Council to consider instituting a fall break.
- vii. Among the small number of faculty searches in the School, Economics, English, and Political Science have successfully completed their searches. There are searches underway for Dean of Honors College and the director of the Center on Philanthropy. In response, Richard Steinberg (Economics) asked if the Philanthropy search will include the opportunity for the School to meet with candidates. Indeed it will, although one candidate has asked that his name remain a secret at this time.
- viii. The proposal for a doctoral program in Economics was approved by the campus-level review committee and is now being considered by the Academic Leadership Council.

## 5. Committee reports

- a. Undergraduate Curriculum and Standards, BA in Philanthropic Studies—Herbert Brant (World Languages and Cultures) introduced the proposal and then invited comments. Dwight Burlingame (Center on Philanthropy) spoke on behalf of the interdisciplinary program. It will require thirty-three credits for the major and will be housed in the SLA, a reflection of the central role that a liberal education plays in philanthropy. He thanked both the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee for its careful oversight and Richard Turner (English) who started the process of creating an undergraduate major several years ago in his capacity as chair of undergraduate studies in Philanthropy. He continued by noting that while most philanthropic studies faculty have their appointments in the SLA, others hale from SPEA and other campuses, proof that this is truly an engaging program. He concluded that he looks forward to the Center offering an undergraduate major and then invited questions and comments from the Assembly.

Robert Barrows (History) stated that he was hard-pressed to vote for this proposal, not because he opposed it on principle—he noted that it fits nicely with the SLA’s mission—but rather over a lack of explanation of how it will be staffed. He had similar concerns over a “virtual faculty”

when the doctorate in Philanthropic Studies was approved, a proposal that he now regrets voting for. He went on to list several other concerns about the proposal:

- It refers to two new courses while the sample curriculum includes eight new courses.
- On page 13, the proposal states that doctoral students will teach in the program, but there is no discussion of the money to fund such efforts.
- Page 19 mentions that in five years the major will require half-time appointments and three new appointments, and again there is no discussion of funding.
- Page 19 refers to strong enrollment demand among undergraduates for philanthropy courses but does not provide evidence of such demand nor does it document any efforts, e.g., surveys, undertaken to substantiate such claims.

Barrows concluded by expressing his discomfort with the proposal and asking for further details concerning the implementation of this program.

Burlingame responded that a number of critical attachments were not included in the packet distributed to faculty. For instance, one attachment addresses the question of demand among students. Moreover, he stated his belief that students with a degree in philanthropic studies will be more competitive in the job market than peers with degrees in business and public affairs. Demand for the program among students is indicated by the doubling of enrollment in the introductory course in philanthropy. Richard Steinberg (Economics) added that new programs entail risk. That said, if the School has a new major, it will attract students and generate student credit hours. He urged the Assembly to trust that the details will be worked out.

In turn, Barrows responded that while he trusts that there is student interest he remains concerned about staffing these classrooms. For instance, if history faculty are called upon to teach a philanthropy course, what courses will go untaught in history? Also, if doctoral students are supported by fellowships, why would they be willing to teach in the program? Burlingame responded that doctoral students can accept external funds and still teach if they wish.

Associate Dean Marianne Wokeck (History) asked for clarification about the origins and standing of American Humanics, a central part of Philanthropic Studies. Burlingame traced the origins of the field to a post-Second World War initiative to enable returning military personnel to conduct philanthropic work among youth. At this point, Scarpino called for final comments.

- Paul Carlin (Economics) asked if SPEA’s non-profit program supported the proposed major. Burlingame replied that it does. In return, Jane Schultz (English) asked if such support was documented. Burlingame reported that there was no official memo.
- Kate Thedwell (Communication Studies) asked if the proposal had been vetted by the chairs whose departments will be affected. Moreover, where will the additional faculty come from? Burlingame stated that new faculty will be supported by growing student-credit hours in Philanthropic Studies. Within five years, the new major will generate enough tuition revenue to hire three new faculty members in Philanthropic Studies. Richard Turner (English) noted that many of the courses that will comprise the major are already being taught. Scarpino repeated Thedwell’s question: have the department chairs in question been consulted? Turner replied that checking with department chairs is not part of the approval process.

The proposal passed by a show of hands, seventy-three in favor, five opposed.

- b. Undergraduate Curriculum and Standards, Revisions of the Philosophy BA and minor—Herbert Brant introduced the motion and John Tilley (Philosophy) reported that the proposal was the result of an external review of the Philosophy major which called for adding six credits to the undergraduate major and requiring more credits at the junior/senior level. The proposal passed unanimously by a voice vote.
- c. Undergraduate Curriculum and Standards, Certificate in Motorsports Studies—Herbert Brant introduced the motion and invited Robert White (Sociology) to describe it for the Assembly. The certificate seeks to recognize the great deal of interest on campus in motor sports. Richard Steinberg (Economics) asked White to summarize the liberal arts merit of motor sports as a subject of scholarly interest. White replied that the hallmark of the liberal arts is to bring a critical sensibility to humanity’s different activities, including motor sports. Marianne Wokeck (History) added that the “studies”—whether in Motor Sports or Philanthropic Studies—was indicative of the liberal arts framework of studying complex social undertakings. Ain Haas (Sociology) proposed a friendly amendment to include a course in the sociology of sport to the proposed curriculum. The motion, including the friendly amendment, was unanimously approved by a voice vote.
- d. Technology Committee—Resolution regarding UITS expropriation of Student Technology Fee—Jennifer Cochrane (Communication Studies) introduced the motion and invited Blomquist to give some background on

the situation. Blomquist explained that the Chancellor's office announced that as of July 1, the entire Student Technology Fee (STF) will be allocated to University Information Technology Services (UITs). In the past, the STF was apportioned between UITs and campus schools. The SLA used its portion of the STF—\$700,000 this year—to purchase equipment for student use and pay the salaries of personnel to maintain it. Generally, STF dollars pay half of the salary for each member of the technical services staff. In the absence of these funds, the SLA will need to identify other sources of money. The commitment from the Dean's office is that there will be no apparent change: staff will stay on and continue to offer the same services. Associate Dean David Ford seconded Blomquist's comments and voiced his approval of the Dean's stance on the matter.

Michael Scott, Director of Technical Services, noted that the expropriation of the STF will affect all labs and services that rely on computing facilities and personnel. Moreover, the removal of these funds means that the SLA will lose control over its technology profile as UITs will assume more responsibility. Karen Kovacik (English) asked about the reactions from other schools to the new policy. Scott replied that other schools are very disappointed. Tere Molinder Hogue (English) noted that this change will impact all labs including the Speakers Lab and the Writing Center. Scott Weeden (English) asked if there will be a fee structure to support personnel and programs after July 1? Blomquist responded that in the current funding climate, the SLA and UITs will negotiate over whether a program is eligible for STF support. One interim scenario is that UITs will return some funds after collecting all of the STF and over the next few years—or less—negotiations will determine which services will be supported by STF and which will revert to the SLA or departments. Andre De Tienne (Philosophy) volunteered that UFC was investigating how the decision was made and asking why the Chancellor apparently had not defended the campus? Richard Turner (English) urged the Assembly to impress upon UITs and campus administration the highly effective computing situation in the School, rather than focusing on our unhappiness.

Discussion ensued about the merits of voting on the resolution or waiting for a larger vote of the faculty via the Internet. After deciding to take a vote, a friendly amendment was added. Crafted by Robert Rebein (English) and Robert Sutton (World Languages and Cultures) among others, it expressed the faculty's expectation that the Chancellor and university President act to delay the expropriation of the STF and solicit faculty input on the matter. The amended resolution passed unanimously by acclamation.

- e. Graduate Curriculum—Credit Requirement Change for the Philosophy MA Program BioEthics Track—Carrie Foote introduced the motion to change the number of credit hours required in philosophy from twenty to eighteen. Unanimously approved by a voice vote.

6. Adjourn