

Minutes

Faculty Assembly, IU School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI
LE 105, 2:30 PM, February 29, 2008

Present: Anton, Aponte, Barrows, Bilodeau, Carlin, Cochrane, Coleman, Curtis, Dicamilla, Dwyer, Ford, Gibau, Goff, Grossmann, Haas, Little, Lovejoy, Masters, Modibo, Murday, K. Sheeler, R. Sutton, Upton, Vargus, Ward, Weeden, Wilson, Wittberg, Wokeck

1. Call to Order—Robert Sutton, 2:45

2. Approval of new agenda, 2:47

3. Approval of Minutes, 2:48

4. President's Remarks—Robert Sutton

Sutton offered comments on two topics. First, he reported on the status of the search for a new Dean of SLA. Three candidates have completed their interviews: William Blomquist (IUPUI, Political Science); Howard Sypher (Chair, Dept. of Communication, Purdue University); and Charles Brody (Chair, Dept. of Sociology, UNC-Charlotte). The remaining candidate, Philip Goff (IUPUI, Center for Religion and American Culture), will interview this coming week. Sutton commented that attendance at meetings with Sypher and Brody had been low and urged faculty members to attend the upcoming meeting with Goff.

Second, Sutton reminded faculty that IU President Michael McRobbie will speak to and take questions from SLA faculty on Monday, March 17, at 2 pm in Lecture Hall 100. McRobbie plans to speak on his vision for IU and the role that the SLA can play in it. Most of the hour-long meeting will be reserved for questions. Specifically, Sutton informed the President's office that SLA faculty would like to hear his responses to questions such as: Where does he see the SLA in ten years? What support can he offer to undergraduate and graduate programs? What will be done to address the structural crisis in the School of Science? What can be done to address facilities and space issues?

5. Dean's Remarks—Robert White

White reported that Dean Sukhatme's office has initiated a conversation on the possibility of creating an Honors College. The campus has a new master plan and architect. The campus Music Program continues to look for an academic home after being cut free by Bloomington. Talks about joining Music to the Herron School of Art and Design failed. As a small program of less than a dozen full-time faculty, Dean Sukhatme wants Music to be part of a larger unit. The SLA has been approached as a possible new home. Financially, Music has maintained a budgetary reserve so it would not tax the SLA. White indicated that he would begin talking with David Peters, Director of Music Program, as well as following up on the reasons for the aborted merger with Herron. He alerted the faculty that there may be a need to seek their input on the matter electronically since only one Faculty Assembly remains.

Robert Sutton (WLAC) asked if there was the possibility of soliciting extra funds from campus or university administration to facilitate the merger. White replied that it was doubtful. Sutton followed up by asking if the arrival of Music in the SLA would provide impetus for a full-scale theater and performance studies major. White responded that he liked the idea. Ain Haas (Sociology) inquired about the compatibility of Music's curriculum and the SLA. White answered that there were many details to look into and that the program specialized in music technology and therapeutic music. Philip Goff noted that the possibility of Music joining the SLA came up in the context of his interview with Dean Sukhatme. Sukhatme responded enthusiastically to the possibility and saw great potential for fund raising associated with Music.

6. Reports from SLA committees

- a. Agenda Council: Robert Sutton introduced the following amendments to the Bylaws, both of which passed unanimously. The proposed changes are in *italics*.

1) **IV.2.b.** Terms: All standing committee appointments and elections will be for two-year, staggered terms, except for the Enhancement Review Committee for which the term is three years. *To reassert balanced staggering of terms within a committee, the Agenda Council may specify before election or at the time of appointment that the term of a position is limited to a single year.* Terms begin at the end of the spring semester. Committees that may need to conduct business during the summer should designate a contact person.

2) IV.4.a. Academic Affairs Committee

(1) The Academic Affairs Committee will apply to individual cases the existing policies of Indiana University, IUPUI, and the School of Liberal Arts with regard to admission, dismissal, readmission, and grade changes, and it will recommend to the ~~Academic Standards and Policies~~ *Undergraduate Curriculum and Standards* Committee modifications or clarifications of these policies in the light of its experience.

- b. Nominating Committee: Gina Sánchez Gibau (Anthropology) announced the following slate of candidates for Faculty Assembly committees.

President:
Philip Scarpino (History)

Agenda Council (3 slots):
1) Kate Duffy (English)
2) Gina Gibau (Anthropology)
3) Marta Anton (WLAC)

Faculty Enhancement Review (2 slots):
1) Peter Thuesen (Religious Studies)

2) Jeanette Dickerson-Putman (Anthropology)

Nominating Committee (2 slots):

1) David Craig (Religious Studies)

2) Didier Bertrand (WLAC)

Promotion and Tenure (4 slots—tenured faculty; 1 slot—sr. lecturer):

1) Bessie House-Soremekun (Political Science)

2) Larry Zimmerman (Anthropology)

3) Bill Touponce (English)

4) Robert Sutton (WLAC)

5) David Sabol—Sr. Lec. (ENG)

- c. Technology Committee: Kimmaree Murday (WLAC) reported for the committee the following motion for adoption by the Faculty Assembly:

“The Faculty Assembly requests the installation of accurate and synchronized clocks in all classrooms and hallways in Cavanaugh Hall.”

Given the availability of relatively inexpensive atomic clocks, the resolution passed unanimously. Dean White offered to pass along the resolution to Emily Wren, Director of Campus Facilities. It will also be passed along to IFC and UFC representatives.

- d. Faculty Affairs: Marianne Wokeck (Associate Dean / History) announced that the committee has been redrafting faculty annual review procedures. The new draft will be posted to the SLA webpage and will be ready for discussion at the next Faculty Assembly in April.
- e. Undergraduate Curriculum and Standards: Kim Lovejoy (English) presented for discussion the proposed major in African American and African Diaspora Studies (AAADS). Ideally the major will be implemented in Fall 2008.

Lovejoy noted that the new major consists of thirty-three credit hours spanning three core courses, three geographic area concentrations, four elective courses, and a capstone. It uses existing courses in the SLA plus four new courses. It includes opportunities for study abroad, service learning, and internships. Patricia Wittberg (Sociology) pointed out a slight discrepancy between appendices and Richard Ward (Associate Dean / Anthropology) suggested rewording a convoluted phrase. Marta Anton (WLAC) asked that several Latin American literature courses be considered as electives. Monroe Little (History / AAADS) responded that he would review their syllabi. Jennifer Cochrane (Communication Studies) prompted a round of applause when she expressed her thanks and congratulation to the AAADS program for undertaking the major.

The proposal for a new major in AAADS passed unanimously

7. Reports from IUPUI Faculty Council (IFC) IU Faculty Council (UFC)
Representatives: IFC representative Marianne Wokeck described a visit from Stan Jones and Ken Sauer, authors of the Higher Education Commission's *Striving Higher* draft report. Jones and Sauer listened to comments and clarifications about the report's inaccurate description of IUPUI. In another piece of IFC business, there is a motion for an undergraduate curriculum committee for the campus.

Wokeck also attended the UFC meeting where there was a discussion of the role of the University's core schools.

8. Old Business: None reported

9. New Business

- a. Present condition of School of Science (SOS): Richard Ward described the present condition of the SOS in the wake of a failed search for a new dean, the continued attrition of faculty, and a deficit budget attributed to high start-up costs for faculty. Ward urged the faculty to see the condition of the SLA, SOS, and University College as inextricably linked.

Robert Barrows (History) asked if any SLA students were experiencing delays in their progress toward degree as a result of the situation in SOS. Ward replied that while basic science courses are being offered, there are no more Integrator courses being offered and the prospects for graduate education in the School are troubling. Robert Sutton asked for clarification on the School's budget crisis, observing that the opportunities for support via grant indirect costs appear greater in SOS than in other fields. David Ford (Sociology) noted that schools do not have as much control over indirect costs as it may appear.

On a related matter, Marianne Wokeck reported that IFC President Bart Ng called for a survey of the actual instructional costs borne by schools. Higher administration reports that there is no applicable data on how much it costs to educate students. President McRobbie and Dean Sukhatme have endorsed this effort. The conversation ended with Ward calling on SLA faculty to recognize common cause with SOS faculty.

- b. Organizing a Community of Practice on Teaching Information Literacy: Patricia Wittberg (Sociology) introduced a new project intended as an intervention in teaching information literacy across the curriculum. She encouraged faculty interested in joining the group to contact her.
- c. Richard Ward announced that volunteers were still needed for Campus Day, March 1.

10. Adjourn, 4:03