Minutes

Faculty Assembly, School of Liberal Arts

2:00- 4:00pm Friday, September 25, 2015 LE 101


1. The Meeting was called to order at 2:01 p.m. by President David Bivin.

2. The Minutes of the Faculty Assembly meeting of May 2, 2015, were approved by acclamation.

3. President's remarks

   ➢ President David Bivin asked faculty to join one of the two ad hoc committees listed under “New Business”
   ➢ Turned the floor over to David Heard for the next item.

4. David Heard, Director of Career Development Services SLA

   ➢ David Heard asked the faculty to think about how to help the students identify their true interests or passions. Reminded faculty of what it means to be eighteen years old and thinking about what they can do. His message: “Let’s help them to figure out their passion.” This would include helping them to connect with curricular and extra-curricular activities. The Career Development Services office can assist. An information sheet was handed out to facilitate discussions between students, faculty, and Career Development Services.

5. Amy Jones Richardson, Assistant Director of the Office of Recruitment, Retention and Academic Affairs, SLA Office of Student Affairs

   ➢ Richardson followed David Heard’s presentation to remind faculty that students also need help understanding what is possible for them beyond completing course requirements. She passed out a handout on ideas for communicating with students about how they can participate in extra-curricular activities within departments and on the rest of the campus. She indicated that these conversations can be important for helping to retain students and for recruiting new majors. Identifying students who can participate in events is an important part of the outreach. Her office will be sending out
information about upcoming events that faculty can communicate to students, but she also is interested in receiving information on events that can be passed out to students.

6. Introduction of new faculty and staff members

- New faculty and staff were introduced (see PowerPoint slides posted on the Faculty Assembly page of the SLA site).

7. Dean's remarks: State of the School and Q&A

- President David Bivin introduced our new SLA dean, Tom Davis.
- Dean Davis reported on the state of the school (see Dean Davis’s PowerPoint as posted).
- Dean Davis asked the faculty to applaud the hard work the dean’s staff engages in. The faculty applauded with enthusiasm.

8. Old business

- Subir Chakrabarti announced that the Faculty Affairs committee is working on amending the promotion and tenure document, which can be seen in the May minutes.

9. New business

a. Implementation of the new Blue evaluation system

- Dean Tom Davis offered comments on the new Blue evaluation system
- It is an online system and it will be used for everyone.
- The Teaching and Advising Committee will be sending out information on working with the system soon.

b. Ad hoc committee promotion of liberal arts courses

- President Bivin asked for volunteers and he encouraged those who want to participate to indicate their interest.
- See the related information on this committee on the Faculty Assembly site.

c. Ad hoc committee on freedom of expression

- President Bivin sent out an email with information on 9/24 and he encouraged those who want to participate to indicate their interest.
- See the related information on this committee on the Faculty Assembly site.

d. Celebration of National Endowment for the Humanities

- Gen Shaker announced that a picture will be taken after Faculty Assembly so that we may take part in the National Endowment for the Humanities celebration coming this Tuesday, September 29. The picture will be posted on social media.

10. Motion to adjourn; seconded; passed unanimously

11. Adjournment
12. New faculty reception in the area outside LE 101