Minutes
Faculty Assembly, School of Liberal Arts
LE 105, 2:00 PM, January 25, 2008

Present: Anton, Barrows, Belz, Carlin, Coleman, Craig, Curtis, Dichtl, Dickerson-Putnam, Dwyer, Eller, Ford, Gibau, Glidden, Goff, Gronfein, Kryder-Reid, Lovejoy, Masters, Mullins, Nnaemeka, Rebein, Robertson, Schneider, K. Sheeler, Sutton, Tezanos-Pinto, Thuesen, Upton, Vargus, Weeden, White, White-Mills, Wilson, Wittberg, Wokeck, Zimmerman

Guests: Dale, Fisher, Haibe, Hanson, Illg, Jiang, Millikan, Mills, Openbrier, Peterman, Plew, Shaker, Thompson, Waldron, Wheeler, Wickstrom, Zhang

1. Call to Order—Robert Sutton, 2:11

2. Approval of Minutes—approved unanimously with a single correction regarding the time at which the last meeting began, 2:12

3. President’s Remarks—Robert Sutton
   a. Sutton welcomed Haiquin (Dinah) Zhang and Fang Jiang, new adjunct faculty colleagues on loan from our partner Sun Yat-sen University in Guangzhou. Both have Masters degrees in Chinese linguistics and language education from Sun Yat-sen. They will teach Chinese in the Department of World Languages & Cultures and help with outreach. Zhang will be on campus for two years and Jiang for one.

   b. Search for new Dean. Sutton announced that the search and screen committee had received fifteen complete applications from which it chose four finalists. They are: William Blomquist (IUPUI, Political Science); Charles Brody (Chair, Dept. of Sociology, UNC-Charlotte); Philip Goff (IUPUI, Center for Religion and American Culture); and Howard Sypher (Chair, Dept. of Communication, Purdue University). Interviews with the candidates began today with Blomquist and will continue into February.

   c. Follow-up on recent Assembly motions regarding pay periods. Dean White forwarded the resolutions to campus administration and faculty governance. Dean White forwarded Sutton a response from Brad Wheeler, IU Vice President for Information Technology, in which he stated that he had not heard of much concern over the issue. Sutton has forwarded the letter to the president of the IUPUI Faculty Council, Bart Ng.

   d. Sutton announced a special meeting of Faculty Assembly with Michael McRobbie, president of IU, scheduled for Monday, March 17, 2-3pm, in
Lecture Hall 101. McRobbie has been invited to speak on his vision of IU and the role of the SLA in it.

4. **Dean’s Remarks—Robert White**

   White announced several items.
   
a. Gina Sanchez Gibau was recently awarded the annual “Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Advocate of the Dream” award from the campus Black Student Union.

b. Regarding the matter of Ward Churchill, White noted that while Churchill’s scholarly record has been checkered, he nevertheless has been a victim of censorship.

c. The SLA’s Center for Health Geographics (PI, David Bodenhamer) was funded during the latest round of proposals for campus Signature Centers.

d. The air handlers that service the first and second floors in Cavanaugh Hall will be offline between May 9 and July 5, 2008. During this time no classes will be offered in the building. Affected faculty may be moved to temporary offices on other floors.

e. Cavanaugh Hall’s electrical transformers will be removed on the night of Friday and Saturday, March 21-22, beginning at 10 pm. There will be no electricity in the building overnight. A new transformer will be installed overnight, Friday and Saturday, March 28 and 29, beginning at 10 pm. Auxiliary generators will supply power to the building during the interim.

f. Student credit hours are up by 963 and the School’s count of majors is up by thirty.

g. The Dean’s office undertook a revised census of faculty. Among the results reported, the faculty has grown in number from 205 to 225 between 2003 and 2007.

Tom Upton asked about future plans for the recently vacated bookstore space in the basement of Cavanaugh. White responded that the School has a long-term goal of centering computer labs and classrooms in the basement but that the cost of the renovation could exceed $1m. The current location of the Social Sciences Computer Classroom, CA 436, may in turn be remodeled for faculty offices. Further, portions of the first floor vacated by campus services are going to host the Confucius Center and the Institute for Research on Social Issues.

Paul Carlin inquired if there were plans for improved offices for faculty amid the shuffling of space in Cavanaugh. White responded that while some faculty offices would be improved it was unlikely that all offices would benefit. There
is neither the space nor the money to insure that every faculty member in Liberal Arts have a better office.

5. **Report from SLA committees**
   a. **Graduate Curriculum.** Robert Rebein introduced the proposal from the Department of Anthropology for a master’s degree in Applied Anthropology. The committee began its review in early November. It was impressed with the time and thought that went into the proposal and had no major questions.

   Robert Barrows asked about the number of graduate-level credits required for the combined Anthropology BA and MA, eighteen credits, which is substantially smaller than most master’s degrees. Susan Hyatt responded that the idea of a dual degree was endorsed by Dean Sukhatme but that she would like to review the number of graduate-level credits in case there was a mistake in the proposal.

   Barrows responded with a second question about the proposal’s self-imposed geographical limitation to “urban” issues. Why not expand to the purview to “Central Indiana” or “Metropolitan Indianapolis.” Hyatt offered that this sounded like a reasonable suggestion and that the original intention was to craft a proposal that did not infringe on IU-Bloomington’s master’s degree in Anthropology. In this same vein, Kim White-Mills suggested that the proposal’s authors consider the ultimate audience for the document, the Indiana Commission on Higher Education. Paul Carlin offered that Sherry Queener, Graduate School, has been very helpful in the past when crafting proposals.

   The proposal was unanimously approved, with the stipulation that it be amended to more accurately reflect the number of graduate credits required of students.

   b. **Graduate Curriculum.** Susan Hyatt introduced the following proposal to streamline approval of graduate Topics courses to more closely mirror the process for undergraduate Topics courses.

   The Graduate Curriculum Committee motions that syllabi for graduate level Variable Topics courses be approved at the departmental level, rather than having them reviewed by the Graduate Curriculum Committee. Doing so will considerably streamline the process of getting these courses approved and is consistent with the procedure at the undergraduate level.

   The proposal passed unanimously.
6. **Guest presentation, Chris Foley, Director of Admissions**
   Foley described the mission of the newly combined offices for enrollment and admissions, The Admissions Center, and its new location in the Campus Center. He thanked faculty for their efforts to recruit excellent students to the campus. Enrollment numbers are increasing and the quality of students has increased. In response the campus is becoming more strategic about the students it attracts to campus. This “enrollment shaping” initiative targets out-of-state students, including international students, and high-achieving high school students. Toward this end, the campus has launched a marketing campaign and a variety of scholarships. The goal is to increase the share of students from out-of-state to ten percent of the total.

7. **Reports from IUPUI Faculty Council (IFC) Representatives**—nothing reported

8. **Report from IU Faculty Council (UFC) Representatives**—nothing reported

9. **Old Business**—nothing reported

10. **New Business**—nothing reported

11. **Adjourn**—3:40pm