

College of Liberal Arts Council
March 4, 2008 meeting minutes

Members present: Baertsch, Bardhan, Beardsworth, Benti, Bird, Burnside, Cáceres, Giblin, Gray, Kidd, Leonard, Ludwig, Morshed, Netzley, Rodriguez, Schoof, Sloboda, Spaulding, Venable.

Members absent: Breznikar, Chonez, Cook, Curtis, Gadzekpo/Chipasula, Hutchins, Lapham, Ojewuyi, Pattisapu, Poquette, Rivera, Silver, Wang, Ward.

1. Welcome, Chair Alejandro Cáceres

Cáceres called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

2. Approval of Feb. 5, 2008, meeting minutes

Motion to approve by Rodriguez. Seconded by Netzley. Minutes were unanimously approved.

3. Guest Speaker – Todd Sigler, Director of SIUC Department of Public Safety

Cáceres introduced Sigler. Sigler thanked the Council for inviting him, and commended CoLA for its excellent response to safety issues. He discussed current and updated emergency response guides as well as the new email/cell phone emergency alert system.

Next, Sigler discussed issues related to parking on campus. He explained that it is not widely known that the Department of Public Safety (DPS) funds several projects such as initiatives aimed at arresting land erosion, maintenance of message trailers, etc. The department is funded solely through decal sales, fines and revenue from parking meters. A certain amount of cash reserves is kept, while the rest is put into various projects. The department is cash driven and not in debt.

Hutton inquired if there are any plans to build a parking garage on campus in the near future. Sigler explained that an architect's rendering had been procured, however the project was too costly and not self-sustaining, therefore that discussion is back to the drawing board. However, the possibility remains open.

Other issues Sigler covered were ways to deal with unruly students in class, intimate partner violence issues as they affect students, safety issues related to the library, the use of 911 service, etc. Burnside inquired about issue of over reactions on the part of professors. Sigler noted that it's safer to take action immediately, and then deal with resolution as necessary.

Cáceres thanked Sigler for sharing his time and expertise.

Both Vaux and DiLalla noted that the DPS is very responsive, their website is informative and detailed, that several services for students needing help are available on campus, and that faculty and staff should not worry about over reacting at the expense of safety. DiLalla noted that Ward had pointed out that the BERT (emergency) system is not available from off-campus computers, and he said that he would follow up with Sigler on this. Vaux added that it is important for departments to have at least one scanner radio, a device that provides warning in real time. The interim provost's office is open to paying for these radios.

4. Committee Reports

Academic Policy – No report

Promotions – No report

Teaching and Learning – No report.

Grievance/Selections & Election – Rodriguez reviewed the changes made to the language for the amendments to the CoLA Council operating papers. He noted that language on the appointment of an interim associate dean had been included. He explained the process of review and approval of the operating papers after the Council votes on changes (CoLA Dean -> Provost-> Chancellor -> CoLA faculty). Some minor discussion and requests for clarification followed.

The council voted unanimously on all three issues:

1. The change in procedure for the composition of the CoLA Council
2. Inclusion of language on procedure for appointing an interim CoLA dean, especially during the summer session.
3. Inclusion of language on procedure for appointing an interim CoLA associate dean.

(Chonez, Curtis, Lapham, Ojewuyi and Ward voted ‘yes’ by proxy).

Next, Rodriguez outlined the procedure for the upcoming CoLA Council elections for the year 2008-09. E-mails will be sent to CoLA chairs and directors requesting them to nominate members from within their units. Results should be available by April 28.

Cáceres reminded everyone that nominations are needed for the positions of chair and vice chair.

5. Dean’s Remarks, Alan Vaux

Dean Vaux reminded members of the upcoming Research Town Hall event on April 1 and requested participation. He congratulated Ojewuyi and the Theatre Department for the successful hosting of Nobel Laureate Wole Soyinka as well as other speakers last month. He noted the upcoming performances by Emanuel Ax (April 1, Shryock Auditorium) and the SIUC wind ensemble at Carnegie Hall (NYC).

6. Associate Dean’s Remarks, David DiLalla

DiLalla reported that hiring is on for the next academic year, and that six successful hires have been made. He requested members to pay special attention to accomplishments as they update their CVs – this serves as input for the college creative activity report to the vice chancellor for research and graduate dean.

7. Dean’s Office Business, Anita Hutton

Hutton passed out information about the Lyndell Sturgis Award for Public Service and encouraged members to nominate deserving individuals. She also reported that 23 undergraduate students will participate in the Externship Program over spring break, and that 16 new sponsors are participating this year.

Dean Vaux commended Hutton for running a successful program every spring break. He also noted that the College is looking to step up its fundraising efforts.

8. Old Business

None

9. New Business

None

10. Announcements

None

11. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Rodriguez Seconded by Netzley. Adjournment at 7:35 p.m.

Submitted by Nilanjana Bardhan/Vice-Chair (2007-08)