

Faculty Council
Meeting Minutes
April 1, 2009

Present: Julio de Paula, Dean of the College; Jane Hunter, Associate Dean; Andrew Bernstein, Associate Professor of History; Daena Goldsmith, Professor of Communication; Rob Kugler, Wright Professor of Christian Studies; Liz Safran, Associate Professor of Geological Science; and Terri Banasek, Executive Assistant and recorder.

Agenda Items:

1. Faculty Council approved the minutes of February 26 and March 16, 2009.
2. Faculty Council approved an application for funding for a distinguished speaker, Lewis Hyde, in February 2010.
3. Presidential search process: Dean de Paula previewed an issue being presented at the afternoon faculty meeting as part of his report. In spite of his great efforts, he has been unable to dissuade the Board from allowing only one member from each school. Dean de Paula needs the name of the elected person by April 8. He is still working through a compromise that may increase CAS faculty participating on the committee. There will be election of a titular member as well as an alternate (with the alternate being the person who receives the second-most votes). The alternate will be made knowledgeable of all written materials but would not be a voting member unless the elected member is unable to serve.
4. Dean de Paula reported that the ILC had a conversation at its meeting about the topic of awarding tenure-track positions in programs that offer minors only – classical studies this year and Latin American studies last year. The discussion at the ILC meeting did not result in a conclusion, but a plan was laid for moving forward. The core of the discussion was the suggestion that the College should shore up majors before committing resources to minors.

Dr. Bernstein added that another important issue was the argument of converting a position of non-tenure-track person teaching five courses and making that a tenure-track position. The budget implications aren't as severe as for creating a new position. There was a vigorous voice of disagreement. Dean de Paula pointed out that programs evolve, and the College needs to support that. The idea is to respond to curricular need that is perennial – respond to the needs of a program. How does that discussion move forward?

5. The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Next meeting: Thursday, April 9, 3:30-5:00 p.m.