

Faculty Council
Meeting Minutes
August 26, 2009

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

Guest: Jane Atkinson, Interim President

Agenda Items

1. Faculty Council discussed the master agenda for the 2009-10 academic year. Dean de Paula noted that the general education discussion will take a lot of time and energy on the part of the Faculty Council.

Highest priority:

David Savage Award

Mellon postdoc program application reviews

Capital equipment and building requests

Faculty and staff position requests

Sabbatical leave requests (including Mellon sabbatical supplement awards)

Student-faculty collaborative research program (supplemented by Mellon)

Department and program reviews

General education

Pamplin Society application reviews

Medium priority:

Policy on course release

Low priority:

Support for student travel (see MNS policy)

Faculty Council agreed on the agenda.

2. Interim President Jane Atkinson joined the meeting.
3. Faculty Council reviewed a request for funding from Lyell Asher to support a visit to the campus by Lisa Harrow of the Royal Shakespeare Company. It was agreed that Associate Dean Hunter would write to Professor Asher to request more information with a link to the Distinguished Speakers Fund file. He will be encouraged to follow up with the theatre department about possible collaboration.
4. General Education: Faculty Council discussed process. Dr. Kugler proposed that after the discussion trickles down to the departments, he would like to see a discussion at the divisional level before moving forward. Dr. Bekar wants to see if there is divisional interest

at this time. He doesn't see a log of energy in the social sciences. Dr. Kugler suggested asking departments how they see themselves in contributions to the College and asking them to produce a two-three page self study.

Dean de Paula suggested trying to get something prepared for the chairs meeting on September 2. Dr. Kugler will draft a document to be discussed over e-mail before being sent to chairs on September 1.

5. The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m. Next meeting: Wednesday, September 10, 3:30 p.m.