

Faculty Council
Meeting Minutes
April 17, 2008

Present: Julio de Paula, Dean of the College; Jane Hunter, Associate Dean; Ken Clifton, Associate Professor of Biology; Dinah Dodds, Professor of German; and Terri Banasek, Executive Assistant and recorder.

Excused: Cliff Bekar, Associate Professor of Economics; Deborah Heath, Associate Professor of Anthropology; Mervyn Brockett, Assistant to the President

Announcements:

- There are four Fulbright awards this year – kudos to Dr. Heath and others on the committee. It was noted that the College could do more to make the college community and alumni aware of the College's excellent record with regard to these awards. An article including a photograph of the Fulbright winners should be written for Lewis & Clark Chronicle.
- Ben David was chosen Professor of the Year.

Agenda Items:

1. Faculty Council discussed the recent accreditation visit. There was a relatively brief list of commendations and recommendations. Detail will follow in the next several weeks. The College won't know if it is officially reaccredited until July.

Dean de Paula reviewed the commendations. The chair of the committee broadly spoke on how we do our business in a transparent way. The library was singled out for its digital initiatives. The College also was commended for its international focus, which confirms what we already knew – that we are still unique in this arena. Faculty-led programs were singled out. There was also a commendation for the Planning Task Force. Commendations should be talking points.

Recommendations:

- a. The College should continue to put effort into assessment. We have made great progress in generating data on assessment, but we need to start feeding those data into our planning. Faculty Council will be very important in bringing in that information as decisions are made on resource allocation issues.
- b. The Board of Trustees should become more engaged in fund-raising initiatives at the College.
- c. The institution needs to deal with debt in a more systematic way. We already knew that and are working on it; it is a slow process.
- d. There was a set of recommendations about student services, from articulating goals all the way to implementation – looking at staffing, the services provided, etc. (We

- were probably hurt by the fact that the Dean of Students position is vacant.) These recommendations include student life, student activities, student support services, etc.
- e. There needs to be more student input into decision making. We need to create an interface between student life and the academic side. Dean de Paula thinks it odd that athletics reports to him, but not admissions. We need to look at the recommendations to determine how to move forward.
 - f. Continue the work being done on diversity.
2. Faculty Council discussion a policy for opportunity hires. Dean de Paula noted that one way to begin acting on the last recommendation from the accreditation team is to make sure we have mentors and role models in our midst for diversity students. We need to think about opportunity hiring. He distributed policies from Reed and Willamette. The faculty at Willamette have already passed the policy.
3. The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Next meeting: Friday, April 25, 8:30-10:00 a.m.