

College of Arts and Sciences

Faculty Meeting Minutes

March 5, 2003

1. Approval of Minutes: Minutes of February 5, 2003, approved with the following correction: The first sentence regarding eligibility in the current language should also be included in the proposed language.

2. President's Report

The next Faculty Forum is Tuesday, March 18. While the forums may have lost energy and focus, it is time to pick this up again. The discussion will focus on the Report of the Task Force on Diversity. The broader issues of diversity should also be considered, and this is an opportunity to do so.

Governor Ted Kulongoski will be this year's commencement speaker.

Referring to the resolution on the war, President Mooney stated that he will not join the debate but will say as a person that this issue does need to be discussed. However, he does not believe that it needs to be put to a vote because of the diversity of opinion on this issue. He assured the faculty that issues like this are matters of keen importance to an academic community. We have to help our students with their feelings as well as their minds.

3. Dean's Report

1. Dean Johnson introduced Dan Terrio, Chief Technology Officer. Mr. Terrio acknowledged that the College has an email problem, and explained that it is a load issue on the server. Spam has increased from 2-5 percent two years ago to 30-40 percent today. There is also a huge increase in the use of listservs. There have been a lot of viruses; our virus scanner scans everything, and that increases the load as well. The server is being replaced, but it needs to be tested first. On March 8, there will be a planned outage of 7-10 hours, during which system email and web pages will not be available. There will be other outages, but they should be short and will be announced. Mr. Terrio believes this will take care of the issue.

Mr. Terrio added that bandwidth is another area of concern. He has put together a task force that is looking at what we can do with what we've got and is considering a number of ideas. We may be allowed to increase bandwidth at the same cost, but we still need to manage peer-to-peer file sharing. Mr. Terrio explained that peer-to-peer file sharing is sharing of audio and video files (large files). IP addresses now can be identified so that copyright infringement can be linked to the person doing the downloading. IT is trying to protect the College and the students.

President Mooney asked if there are any good spam filters. Mr. Terrio

replied that there are, but the new server needs to be up and running, and the filter isn't foolproof. Professor Kaplan pointed out that this can be difficult because some messages may be misidentified as spam. Mr. Terrio responded that IT is looking for a package that can be customized by the individual user.

2. Dean Johnson reported that the Inventing America Review Task Force is meeting. He encouraged all faculty to take a few moments to complete the survey. The URL has been corrected, so faculty should be able to access it. He also reminded the faculty to fill out the survey only once.
3. Dean Johnson reported that the covered area at the Howard work site was explained in an email; but, in short, the cover protects the College community from exposure to asbestos in the site. The remodeled part of Albany will be open within the next week or two, including the café.
4. Dean Johnson reported that four of five faculty searches are finished. The new faculty are:

Philosophy - Jay Odenbaugh
English - Will Pritchard
Chemistry - Nikolas Loening
German - Katherina Altpeter-Jones

The music department search is close to completion.

5. Dean Johnson noted the Report of Faculty Task Force on Diversity has been important in faculty hiring and student recruitment, and there has been some success with student recruitment. However, it is more difficult with faculty hires. The report has had the effect of elevating our awareness.
6. The Truman Scholar event on March 20 in the Council Chamber is open to everyone. Faculty are encouraged to attend.
7. Dean Johnson reminded the faculty of the following awards deadlines:

Rena Ratte - Complete application packets are due March 15.
AAUW - Nominations are due March 18; letters of recommendation are due April 3.
Pamplin, Cheney, and Mary Stuart Rogers recommendations are due March 7.

8. Deborah Schwartz and two other students spoke to the faculty on behalf of the Organization on Peace and Politics. There will be a student walkout on the day the bombing starts. The reason is to sacrifice something in exchange for an important message. The students are trying to work with faculty and don't want this to be a students vs. faculty issue. They asked for faculty support.

Evan Williams pointed out that their plan pre-assumes the war will happen. What are they doing ahead of time?

The students responded that Lewis & Clark is part of a different organization, but they strongly support all anti-war movements nationally and internationally. Students may have emotions on the day of the bombing, so these students wanted to channel emotions into something productive. There will be a walkout at 2 p.m., a rally on campus, and then they will join a demonstration downtown. When students return to campus, there will be a candlelight vigil followed by a lecture series of individual afternoon lectures on campus every day for three weeks.

When asked by Professor Osipovich if they represent the majority of students, the students responded that they have received 408 pledges in two days and that ASLC has supported their movement.

Provost Atkinson noted that the students have done a great job of planning ahead. It was very helpful to have a student group inform the faculty ahead of time.

Professor Toledano asked what the students will do if the bombing doesn't happen. The students responded that they have set a deadline for speakers and will proceed.

9. Curriculum Committee - Rich Peck
 1. March 19th deadline for calendar ballots.
 2. The committee has prepared a better calendar proposal.
 3. Reviews of both Inventing American and the Sociology/Anthropology department are proceeding.

No additional committee reports.

4. Deborah Heath made a motion to change the order of the agenda to begin with New Business and then to go back to Old Business. A change requires a 2/3 vote of the faculty. Vote: in favor, 24; opposed, 18. Motion fails.
5. Old Business: Calendar

Rich Peck encouraged the faculty to move quickly through calendar issues, holding discussion to 15-20 minutes. The Curriculum Committee hopes to send out a mail ballot to vote on the options. The alternatives include starting classes before or after Labor Day. There are seven paired choices, organized by the date of Labor Day. To clarify, S represents Saturday on the options.

Moved and seconded:

1. That there will be a mail ballot vote consisting of seven elections, one election for each of the seven possible dates for Labor Day;
2. That each election shall consist of a slate of two calendars, one starting after Labor Day, the other starting before Labor Day; and
3. That the slates for these elections will be determined at the current faculty meeting.

Evan Williams moved that, in Item 1, the word "mail" be taken out of motion. The reason for this is that the mail ballot discourages attendance at faculty meetings. Faculty have the obligation to attend, and he would be against doing this by mail. He suggested that the faculty discuss this today and then cast votes in person at the next faculty meeting.

Amendment to motion: Remove the word "mail." Seconded. Motion failed.

Deborah Heath called the question on the original motion. Motion passed. Floor was open to discussion on calendar options.

Questions:

Nick Smith: Why one day vs. two days of fall break?

Greg Fredricks: We tried to avoid having Sunday finals.

Q: Which day is the absolute last date of the semester?

A: Last day of finals.

Brian Detweiler-Bedell: What about start days?

Greg Fredricks: Semesters that begin after Labor Day start the following day (Tuesday), otherwise on Monday.

Q: What about the start day for spring semester if fall semester ends early?

A: Spring semester is predicated on the end date (graduation).

Deborah Lycan: Confusion about the end date.

A: The calendar changes each year.

Louis Kuo: All choice Bs leave us with five- or six-week winter break?

Steve Beckham: Long winter break may lead to retention problems.

A: There's a price to be paid on one end or the other.

President Mooney: How do students feel about a single reading day?

A: Students definitely favor two reading days, but one reading day possibilities always fall on Wednesday.

President Mooney: Is there a reason why we must end on the 20th?

A: It's been that way for a long time; and at the last faculty meeting, people felt uncomfortable moving past December 20.

Jane Atkinson: One idea is to keep two reading days by starting earlier or ending later. Also, a clarification about retention: the problem was Thanksgiving time, not winter break.

Elliott Young offered a motion to end debate. Seconded.

Q: Can we add the start dates of spring break to this?

A: Yes

President Mooney said he would like to continue to the discussion. Have we looked at other schools' calendars?

A: All of the principles end up being in conflict, so the idea is to bring the calendar up year by year.

President Mooney: Have we driven our calendar more to meet faculty needs than the students?

A: We have involved students, although they have not been canvassed formally.

Motion to close debate is supported.

6. New Business

Elliott Young offered the following motion:

The Bush administration is proposing a war against Iraq in the name of American national security. The majority of the College of Arts and Sciences Lewis & Clark Faculty believe that no compelling evidence has been offered of an imminent threat to our security that would justify the use of military force. A war with Iraq will be a war of choice, not necessity. We condemn the Iraqi regime for its gross and persistent violations of the human rights of the Iraqi and Kurdish peoples, and support efforts by the Iraqi opposition to create a democratic, multiethnic and multireligious Iraq. But we believe that the decision to wage war at this time is morally unacceptable, and urge the Bush administration not to make it.

Co-Sponsors

Kellar Autumn	Tatiana Osipovich
Michael Broide	Rich Peck
Alan Cole	Paul Powers
Rebecca Copenhaver	Stepan Simek
Isabelle DeMarte	Juan Carlos Toledano
Jerusha Detweiler-Bedell	Evan Williams
Eban Goodstein	Elliott Young
Deborah Heath	Rishona Zimring
Rob Kugler	

7.

Motion seconded.

Elliott Young stated that this issue has sparked a debate, but not only about the war, but also about whether we should vote in this forum. He believes that colleges and universities have a duty to involve themselves in this debate. He noted that other faculty bodies have done this. But he also claimed to recognize that there are serious differences of opinion, that he hopes the faculty can discuss. A lot of time is given to voicing opinions as individuals, but there is also

a time to act as a collective body.

Dr. Young also noted that a petition/letter is a great idea, but it isn't the same thing as a faculty vote on this issue. But he disagreed that vote oppresses minority opinions. He offered an amendment that recognizes differences of opinion.

He then read the amendment aloud.

Recognizing and honoring the great diversity of opinion of this faculty, the resolution received _____ Yes votes, _____ No votes, and _____ abstentions.

The question has been raised: Dr. Young asked if this vote stop the discussion of this issue. He thinks not. He encourages a thousand flowers to bloom. Finally, he encourages people to put together a minority report.

Friendly amendment is seconded.

Stuart Kaplan stated his opposition to the idea of the faculty speaking in a collective voice. To do this puts us on a slippery slope. Today it is war, next year it could be reproductive rights, and then separation of church and state. We are not a legislative body. He didn't hear a reason as to why we can vote on this but not on future issues. There are lots of peace groups that we can all sign onto.

Dorothy Berkson stated that it is precisely an issue of this sort that faculty should be debating. It is part of our responsibility to present a model to our students of how to be concerned citizens. We should take a moral stance on issues such as these.

Annie Dawid thanked Stuart. She wasn't a sponsor because of the same concerns. But she wanted to speak against the slippery slope argument. The world opinion leads me to believe that this is not a slippery slope.

Steve Beckham said he would like to speak on a number of things that dismay him: the Patriot Act, the lack of a light rail, the Oregon Legislature, senior discounts, etc. He doesn't bring these issues to this forum. He has ample place to voice his objection to this war.

Tatiana Osipovich respectfully disagreed. We talk so much about building community, and that can't be done by discussing the calendar. To miss the opportunity to build community would be very upsetting.

Evan Williams said that we can vote on whether we should vote on this issue. We could take a straw vote on whether to do this, or we could make a substitute motion. He moved to substitute a straw vote.

Motion seconded.

Nick Smith noted that the current motion to endorse the petition forces some of us to vote "no" even when we agree with the motion. That's a real bad place to

put your colleagues.

John Fritzman stated that, given that this is important new business, we couldn't vote until the next meeting, and a secret ballot should be used.

Dean Johnson noted that either the chair or a majority of faculty could move to make this "important business." The chair will not do so because this is a resolution, not a change to the by-laws or governance structure or the like.

Rebecca Copenhaver called for the question - is the straw vote appropriate?

Evan Williams pointed out that we are voting to substitute one motion for another. The motion on the floor is to close debate on the motion to substitute.

Clarification was asked for. Dean Johnson explained that the previous question had been called, and that is a non-debatable motion. A "yes" vote would mean that there will be no further debate on whether to substitute the new motion,. A further vote on the substitute motion itself would be necessary to approve the substitute.

There was then a call for a secret ballot (on the motion to call the previous question). Objection to secret ballot is placed. As a result of the objection, the call for a secret ballot requires a majority vote.

There was then a call for a secret ballot on the motion for a secret ballot. This motion, too, was objected. Dean Johnson pronounced the proceedings to have reached an impasse. Quorum was called. Quorum failed.

8. Meeting adjourned.