

Faculty Organization Minutes: April 19, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 1 p.m. by Chuck Gallmeier.

The minutes from the March meeting were approved, seconded and unanimously approved by those present.

President Gallmeier invited all faculty to the April 22 presentation by Barbara Bichelmeyer in Library Conference room 105. A meet and greet session is scheduled at 11:30 a.m. and her presentation is scheduled for 12:30. There will be time for questions and answers at 1:30. This is an IU Northwest FACET sponsored event.

President Gallmeier announced and congratulated the winners of all of the prestigious campus awards. Founder's Day Award: Diane Larson, CIS; IU Northwest Distinguished Scholarship/Creative Activity Award: Stephanie Smith, Psychology; IU Northwest Distinguished Service Award: Diane Larson, CIS; Board of Trustees Teaching Award winners: Nicole Anslover, History; Subir Bandyopadhyay, SOBE; Zoran Kilibarda, Geosciences; Donna Krause, Dental Education; Diane Larson, CIS; Diana Chen Lin, History; Kevin McElmurry, Sociology; Karl Nelson, Psychology; Harold Olivey, Biology; Axel Schulze-Halberg, Mathematics..

Chancellor Lowe announced all of the faculty who had been awarded promotion and tenure and congratulated each one. They are: Katherine Arfken, tenured and promoted to Associate Professor, Performing Arts; Peter Avis, tenured and promoted to Associate Professor, Biology; Jonathyne Briggs, tenured and promoted to Associate Professor, History; Kelly Knaga, promoted to Senior Lecturer, Fine Arts; Barbara Peat, promoted to Professor, SPEA; Axel Schulze-Halberg, tenured and promoted to Associate Professor, Mathematics.

The Chancellor also noted that both the Indiana House and Senate have passed budgets reflecting increases of 3.5 percent in state appropriations for higher education. Previous versions of the state budget had indicated only a 1 percent increase. While this is positive news, it still does not restore previous cuts. As Indiana Governor Mike Pence wants to provide an income tax reduction, this may now be possible without harming institutions of higher education. Furthermore, the Indiana Senate budget includes money to replace Tamarack Hall; there is cautious optimism that this goal may be achieved in the near future.

President Gallmeier asked the Chancellor about what appears to be a draft policy from the Trustees concerning summer classes that indicated that a minimum of 25 students were expected in each summer class. The Chancellor said that the document was a draft and he anticipates that the number will ultimately be lower than 25 students and that this was confirmed in an earlier conversation with David Malik. Several faculty members noted that minimum class sizes could hurt retention efforts, especially in introductory courses and that IUN has traditionally averaged class sizes for faculty members (so that a faculty member who taught one large class would be allowed to teach a second smaller class). The Chancellor emphasized that this was merely a preliminary document. It also remains unclear whether this is based on the 75 percent summer

tuition figure being used for summer 2013 or the 100 percent summer tuition rate. President Gallmeier asked that the Chancellor keep the faculty informed of his discussions with the Trustees about this policy.

Vice Chancellor Lewis reported that summer registration has gotten off to a slow start despite implementation of the summer tuition discount for the second year. He added that there are no Pell grants available for the summer, but that Miller and Perkins loans may be available for qualified students; faculty advisors should be sure to alert their students. New student admissions are up by 6 percent. Fall applications are up by 11 percent and fall admissions are up by 41 percent.

Vice Chancellor Lewis also noted that the pre-med conference last weekend attracted 140 high school and college students. An adult learner open house is scheduled for May 29. The report from the advising consultant who met with faculty and students will be distributed shortly; a task force will be created to respond to the needs identified in her report. Finally, the IUN Competitive Cheer team won second place in the Florida national competition recently.

Dr. Bob Mucci, Chair of the Academic Calendar Committee, reported back on the academic calendars through 2015. He noted that some years we will have a four-week holiday break, while other years we will have a two-week break and it appears that we cannot change that. The academic calendars were unanimously approved.

Vice Chancellor O'Dell reported that 2012 Senate Enrolled Act 182 requires that six core competencies be created in order to meet the statewide general education core. We will need to document that students have or have not met this requirement by May 15, 2013. IUN achieved this with the input of six faculty members in these areas. This means that when a student transfers from another university, IUN will need to accept the core competencies from another campus.

The IU regional campuses wanted to categorize these core competencies from transfer students as undistributed credits. The student would have to take the course and get a required grade if the program demands a specific grade, such as a C or higher. This approach may make it easier for students to transfer to Indiana universities.

In reviewing the General Education principles, Principle 1 remains unchanged, Principle 2 is reduced by three hours, and Principles 3-5 are in the specific program requirements for the degree. The change was unanimously approved.

Dr. Allegrezza proposed that a new committee called the Faculty Ambassadors be created to represent different departments at functions such as student recruitment and retention events. This would count as part of faculty service. This was unanimously approved.

Dr. Allegrezza also discussed minor changes to the undergraduate admissions policy. It was proposed that students "should" have GPAs above 2.0 should be changed to "must." However, several faculty noted that paragraph seven addresses probationary admissions and that this issue is addressed here. Also, Dr. Allegrezza noted another change concerning students who take the

GED that was addressed in the revised policy and updated. The policy was unanimously approved.

Ms. Coven provided Tech Tips.

Dr. Gallmeier reminded everyone to vote as the Faculty Org election ballot has been sent out to faculty. The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.