

College of Liberal Arts Council
May 6, 2008, meeting minutes

Members present: Baertsch, Bardhan, Beardsworth, Benti, Burnside, Cáceres, Giblin, Gray, Lapham, Leonard, Morshed, Netzley, Pattisapu, Rodriguez, Schoof, Silver, Sloboda, Spaulding, Venable, Wang, Ward.

Members absent: Bird, Breznikar, Chonez, Cook, Curtis, Gadzekpo/Chipasula, Kidd, Ludwig, Ojewuyi, Poquette, Rivera, Spaulding.

New members present: Allehoff, Chandler, Gould, Lancaster, Patrick-Benson, Rush, Stricklin, Stubbs, Thibeault (proxy for Albuixech), Whaley,

1. Welcome, Chair Alejandro Cáceres

Cáceres called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

2. Approval of April 1, 2008, meeting minutes

Motion to approve by Rodriguez. Seconded by Netzley. Minutes were unanimously approved.

3. Welcome new CoLA Council members

Cáceres welcomed new member and briefly explained the role, structure and responsibilities of the council. New members introduced themselves.

4. Committee Reports

Academic Policy – No report.

Promotions – Kempf-Leonard gave a brief update on the promotional materials that the committee has been working on with Pyramid PR students. She passed around a poster that will be targeted at high schools for council approval. She said that the committee has also worked on a bookmark that will be on the poster.

As a recommendation from the committee for next year, Kempf-Leonard and Giblin noted that the CoLA website needs to be improved to include more information, e.g. for prospective students. The current site mainly serves current students. Also, the links to information about individual departments should not make one leave the CoLA site. There also needs to be more uniformity in the promotional materials.

Kempf-Leonard commended Andrea Hahn of University Communications for her help with promoting CoLA. Hahn will be working on putting together an online newsletter for high school students.

Some discussion on the poster and its design and the information included followed. Suggestions were made and included. Cáceres thanked Leonard Kempf and the committee for their hard work. Rodriguez moved to approve the poster, Netzley seconded. The council unanimously approved the poster for further development.

Teaching and Learning – No report. Cáceres explained the past work of the committee to new members. He urged new members to look up the responsibilities of each committee online (outlined in the CoLA operating papers that can be accessed from the CoLA web site).

Grievance – No report.

Selections & Election – Rodriguez reported on the election procedure and the results of this year's elections. Due to a tie situation, five instead of three graduate students have been elected. There is no provision in the operating papers to deal with ties. Three undergraduate students still need to be appointed in the fall. There were 10 faculty vacancies, 11 were nominated, and all 10 vacancies have been filled.

Cáceres thanked Rodriguez for his work on updating the operating papers and managing the election process.

5. Dean's Remarks, Alan Vaux

Dean Vaux thanked the Promotions Committee for its work. He stated that while the CoLA web site has improved a lot, it could be further improved. He thanked the other committees and outgoing members and welcomed the new members. He noted that CoLA is the only college that has an advisory body such as the council, and that as dean he greatly values its role as a liaison between students, faculty, the various units and the dean's office.

He next reported that he has completed all the annual reviews of tenure-track faculty, and was pleased to see the incredible work being done throughout the college. He noted that it has been an amazing year in CoLA, with several student and faculty awards, events and accomplishments the college can be very proud of.

He concluded that even though it has been another very tough year budget-wise, he is heartened to see how the college continues the good work that it does.

6. Associate Dean's Remarks, David DiLalla

No report. Vaux noted that successful hires have been made in various departments this year including Art & Design, Sociology, Speech Communication, Political Science and The Center for the Study of Crime, Delinquency and Corrections (CSCDC).

7. Dean's Office Business, Anita Hutton

Hutton reminded council members of graduation coming up on Friday. She encouraged members to attend and to encourage their colleagues to do the same. Both Vaux and Cáceres echoed this message, and Vaux said that he would welcome suggestions from the council on how to encourage more faculty members to attend.

8. Old Business

Cáceres proceeded to announce that Kempf-Leonard had been nominated by Burnside for the position of CoLA Council chair next year. Burnside also nominated himself as vice chair.

Some discussion ensued about whether it would be appropriate to have a chair of a CoLA unit be chair of CoLA Council. Kempf-Leonard is currently chair of CSCDC. The CoLA operating papers do not mention anything on this matter. The general agreement was that Kempf-Leonard has negotiated her roles as CSCDC chair as well as a member of the council professionally, and there is no reason to suspect she will not do the same as council chair. In a case of obvious conflict of interest, the vice chair could step in. Potential conflict situations were discussed.

Kempf-Leonard stated that in case of a conflict, she would be ready and willing to step down as chair. She also noted that she is inspired to run for the chair position since she believes that CoLA is fortunate to have an advisor body such as the council, and she would like to be of service in this capacity.

Cáceres opened the floor for other nominations. None were made. A motion was made and seconded to vote for Kempf-Leonard as chair and Burnside as vice chair. The council voted unanimously in favor of both.

9. New Business

None

10. Announcements

Patrick-Benson made an announcement about an upcoming theatrical event for which she is recruiting children between the ages of 6 and 12 from the community. This event is part of a large outreach program being undertaken by the Theatre Department.

11. Adjournment

Cáceres stated that it has been his pleasure to serve the council as chair this part year.

Motion to adjourn by Netzley at 7:05 p.m. Seconded by Rodriguez.

Submitted by Nilanjana Bardhan/Vice-Chair (2007-08)