

Minutes of the Spring Semestrial Meeting of the Faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences
13 April 2005 - 3:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Regency A - City Union
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

The Spring meeting of the College of Arts & Sciences faculty was called to order at 3:45 p.m. by Dean Richard Hoffmann.

The minutes of the Fall faculty meeting of 9 December 2004 were approved in the first item of business.

In opening comments (Item II), the Dean reported on the results of the up-or-down straw ballot conducted concerning the motion made to retain the IS program with the recommendations made by the College Curriculum Committee. Very few voted, following the general level of participation in such actions.

Dean Hoffman also strongly recommended the members of the faculty to be as pro-active as one can in facilitating students' enrollment since they are busy at this time making registration decisions. There could be financial consequences, he cautioned.

Item III on the agenda provided an opportunity to raise questions arising from annual reports of the various College committees, which appeared in the appendix. This Item did not delay the move to the next two Items (IV, V), presented by Professor Shirer for the College Curriculum Committee: Essential Studies courses for Area E (Historical Studies) and Area F (Humanities); and additions to the list of Integrative Studies courses. Both Items were approved unanimously.

Item VI provided an opportunity to ask questions of the Dean. Professor Leger asked about solutions for the low attendance at faculty meetings, or is there a broader problem of how we view ourselves. Dean Hoffman noted that 25% of the faculty votes, when asked on paper or electronically, and perhaps a representative assembly might be the answer.

The Dean went on to discuss college priorities in its strategic plan: 1) significant research projects; 2) enhancement of undergraduate programs, especially lower-level courses; 3) outreach where research agenda applies to society (*e.g.*, mathematics in the middle school, the CROP project).

He also mentioned that he and seven others from UNL were headed to Chicago for a meeting with the North Central Accrediting people, with 1,000 gathering to learn for the decennial accreditation exercise. The key words for programs now are: distinctive, future-oriented, student-centered, and engaged. Professor Bleed observed that it will be focused visit.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m., on motion with second by Professors Laura White, and Robert Shirer, respectively.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas

Thomas E. Rinkevich, Recording Sec'y

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