

MINUTES
LINCOLN UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
FACULTY MEETING
Tuesday, February 4, 2003, 4:00 p.m.
Dickey Hall Auditorium

President Nelson convened the meeting at 4:07 p.m.

- I. NO REPORT FROM THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
- II. REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dr. Nelson updated the faculty on maintenance issues – a burst pipe under the new gym floor, heating problems in all of the residence halls - that came up during the extreme cold weather of the past two weeks. DGS project bids were opened January 15. Some projects are under estimate and the savings may be applied to additional projects. Because of the lateness of the construction schedule, it appears that Commencement will be held in the usual place. Dr. Nelson has approached United States Senators from Pennsylvania, Specter and Santorum, about sponsoring a tangible recognition of Lincoln's Sesquicentennial.

Faculty members asked about the altercation between students two weekends ago. Dr. Nelson informed the group that it involved more than 20 young women behaving in a territorial gang manner. They were all sent home and returned to the campus yesterday to face judicial hearings. Ten suspensions are expected. The President was asked and responded openly to a suggestion that a joint faculty, student, administration committee be formed to look at ways to re-socialize students for academic success at Lincoln.

- III. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Approval of Minutes of January 7, 2003 meeting with corrections.
It was moved and seconded to approve the Minutes of the January 7, 2003 faculty meeting. The motion to approved the January 7, 2003 Minutes carried.
- B. Nominations for a new Faculty Secretary were tabled subject to Nominating Committee action.
- C. Recommendations from the Curriculum Committee
 - 1) Core Curriculum
Since no Curriculum Committee members were present to present the recommendations, the Core Curriculum became a discussion item. After numerous concerns were expressed about the Core proposal, there was consensus to return it to the School faculties for further discussion. It was decided that each School

would offer guiding proposals on “What we expect Lincoln students to become,” tying this discussion to the Strategic Plan and Mission Statement. The President’s charge is to use the School conversations to review both the Core and the Majors. The reworked Core would then be sent back to the Curriculum and Educational Policies Committees.

2) English 330 (Newsriting)

After explanation by members of the English Department, it was moved and seconded to approve English 330 (Newsriting), which would not add to the list of required courses, but would bring academic work to Lincoln that was previously done at Temple University. The motion to approve English 330 was carried.

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Educational Policies Committee

- 1) Permitting seniors who have no more than one course to complete to march in the commencement procession.

A lively discussion ensued on the background of the current two-course policy and the increased numbers of seniors marching who had not completed all of their academic work, including seniors who never returned to complete but took jobs claiming they had completed. There were arguments on behalf of students who had only a summer internship to complete. It was concluded that more data was needed on how many are not completing, yet marching, and why they are not completing on time.

- 2) What is the meaning of the A+ grade?

Data on average GPAs and proportion of senior classes receiving honors at graduation since 1992 were received in the context of a possible effect on A+ grades.

B. Recommendations from the Faculty Bylaws Committee
Not ready for presentation.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Grant D. Venerable, II