

# LINCOLN UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## FACULTY MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Dickey Hall Auditorium

Dr. Nelson convened the meeting at 4:08 PM.

### **I. REPORT FROM THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION . . . Nosakhere El-Griffin**

SGA President Nosakhere Griffin-El noted the some of the SGA's accomplishments with regard to the SGA's student body self-improvement initiative and its push to maintain and enhance academic excellence at Lincoln University including:

- The opening of Dickey Hall classrooms for study between the hours of 7:00 PM and 3:00 AM on weekdays.
- The installation, to take place before the Thanksgiving break, of three computers with printing capability in McRary, Ashmun, and Hansberry Halls.

### **I. REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT . . . . .Dr. Ivory Nelson**

Dr. Ivory Nelson noted some of the accomplishments made by and the challenges still facing Lincoln University. For example, he reported that Lincoln University would use three temporary trailers to heat residential buildings until the heat was turned on permanently for the season on October 15<sup>th</sup>. In addition, Dr. Nelson pointed to the fact that Ware Center would have a new roof by November. Moreover, Dr. Nelson said that he expects that the university would be able to the begin the process of renovating Ware Center and University Hall within eight months and that the funding for a new International Cultural Center would be forthcoming from the Commonwealth in the near future. On the other hand, Dr. Nelson contrasted his hopes for continued and new capital funding from the Commonwealth with the current frustration in obtaining operating revenues from the Commonwealth. Specifically, Dr. Nelson described the situation as one in which state-related institutions such Pennsylvania State University, Temple University, the University of Pittsburgh, and Lincoln University are required to go through an appropriations process in which two-thirds of the legislature must approve a separate bill for operating revenues for each state related institution, while public universities and colleges had only to receive 50 per cent plus one vote in the legislature to

receive their operating revenue funding appropriations. As a result, Lincoln University must borrow substantial funds at 3.35 per cent.

## **II. ACTION ITEMS**

A. Approval of Minutes from September 9, 2003 Meeting: the minutes were provisionally approved until the following errors were corrected: H. John Henrik Clarke instead of John Henry Clark, Kyle Henry instead of Kyle Henderson, and Ullin Rigby instead of Yulin Rigby.

B. Recommendations from the Curriculum Committee . . . Dr. B. Marshall Henderson:

1. Math M. Ed. Courses (MTE 601, 602, 603): The Curriculum Committee recommended that MTE 601, MTE 602, and MTE 603 be added to the Masters in Education program. The motion to approve the Curriculum Committee's recommendation and was seconded and the faculty approved the motion.
2. Journalism Course (ENG 331—Feature Writing) The Curriculum Committee recommended that ENG 311 be added to the journalism curriculum of the English Department. The motion to approve the Curriculum Committee's recommendation and was seconded and the faculty approved the motion.

## **III. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A. The need for creating an academic environment at Lincoln. . . . Dr. Robert Millette: Dr. Millette prefaced his remarks by stating that creating an academic environment takes leadership and shared vision, noting that everyone is capable of being a leader on this campus—including custodians, secretaries, students, and faculty members. Moreover, Dr. Millette emphasized that an academic environment must include a livable, teachable, and learnable ambiance, an ambiance that does not include excessively dangerous heat inside classrooms, nor flooded, nor untidy classrooms. Second, Dr. Millette questioned the practice of recruiting faculty without faculty input. Third, Dr. Millette implored Lincoln University to be active in study abroad programs. Fourth, Dr. Millette stated that Lincoln University must have a full time director for the honors program in order to recruit the best students. Lastly, Dr. Millette urged the body to form an ad hoc committee on academic excellence made up of seven members: one faculty person from each school, one faculty member from the Urban Center, one representative from the SGA, one representative from Fiscal Affairs, and one representative from The Langston Hughes Memorial Library. Dr. Prigg expressed concerns over duplicating the work of the Academic Standing Committee. Dr. Poe asked to whom would this ad hoc committee report. Dr. Dade noted that the gravity of the issue might demand an ad hoc committee. Dr. Flint asked when such a committee might report to the faculty. Dr. Chikwem was concerned that the concept of academic excellence was not

operationalized sufficiently. Specifically, he was concerned that there was not a set of assessment tools to measure academic excellence. Dr. Nwachuku asked that discussion on the matter be closed. A motion to end discussion on the matter was made, seconded, and passed by the body. Dr. Venerable called the question in the form of a motion that an ad hoc committee on academic excellence be formed with the proviso that the committee itself would decide on the composition and exact charge of the ad hoc committee on academic excellence. This motion was seconded and passed by the body. Dr. Venerable stated that he would convene the committee and to get its good work started.

#### **IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Update from the Promotions, Tenure and Severance Committee...Dr. David Royer: The PTS committee sent a memo that states that PTS is now accepting applications for promotion, tenure, and sabbaticals and that outlines the application procedure.
- B. Other Announcement: Dr. Flint: twenty-five slots are open to tour the Barnes Foundation. Dr. Willis: students from Introduction to Art and Introduction to Music also are touring the Barnes this semester and next semester. If there are any other students who would like to tour the Barnes, we will arrange it. Dr. Bradt announced the next Sesquicentennial Brown Bag Lecturer would be Dr. Nelson in DH Auditorium on October 22, 2003 at 12:00 noon. Dr. Millette announced that the next Foreign Service Examination would be in April. Dr. Venerable adjourned the meeting at 5:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald J. Bradt  
Faculty Secretary