

Faculty Meeting Minutes
Tuesday March 3, 2009

President Ivory Nelson called the meeting to order at 4:15 PM in Dickey Hall Auditorium.

President's Report: Dr. Ivory C. Nelson

Dr. Nelson apologized for being late, noting that he was testifying before the House Appropriations Committee in Harrisburg at 2:45 PM.

He acknowledged that we are in tough times but emphasized that in past 150 years plus, Lincoln University has survived many tough times, noting in particular the decisions that have ensured Lincoln's survival, such as becoming state related in 1975 and admitting female students, as well the fact the LU founder John Miller Dickey mortgaged his farm to keep Lincoln going in the early years.

Dr. Nelson then referred to the letter sent out to the Lincoln University community concerning the budget. That letter gives the current financial status of our present reality, specific budgetary issues and possible action steps for the 2009-10 budgets. We would be surgical in our approach. We must keep Lincoln attractive to potential students. In 1999, 1700 students express an interest in Lincoln. As of now, we have 4500 potential students expressing an interest in Lincoln. We need to maintain this interest in Lincoln University.

The difficulty for us is the ability of our young people to obtain the financial aid and assistance to attend Lincoln. Our out-of-state students need to get an additional \$5,000 to \$6,000 to attend Lincoln University. They need their families to help raise the necessary funds in order to attend here.

Mayor Nutter, of Philadelphia, met with all the colleges and universities in our area. All agreed that the key problem is the ability of students to get the financial assistance and aid to attend the college of their choice.

We are all aware of what happened at Harvard, Clark Atlanta, Spellman, Morehouse, and Tennessee State. We need to avoid this.

When Dr. Nelson came aboard in 1999, the theme was that we need to revitalize the campus and provide the technology needed to do our job and provide essential student services. We now need to change our approach and make it more effective and efficient.

Dr. Nelson reported that currently, a majority of our undergraduate students come from New York State, New Jersey and Maryland. Students from New Jersey and New York have higher SAT scores because they have universal state standards of education for graduation from high school. Pennsylvania does not have this.

Faculty asked questions and brought up various concerns. Dr. Nelson answered all these questions as best he could.

Dr. Nelson pointed out that we as an institution need to address the distribution of workloads academically and schedule our classes throughout the day. Take a look at everything and make them cost effective. We still provide classes for our students and programs we need to have. In difficult times we can make changes easily because we are more willing to make the hard decisions. There will be information provided. The Academic Deans have been asked to work with 3 or 4 of their department chairs on this process regarding our upcoming budget.

Report of the Student Government Association: The Vice President Pro Temp distributed an Academic Concerns Survey from the SGA. Please return the Survey to the SGA by Friday March 6, 2009.

Action items:

A.) Minutes of the February 3, 2009 meeting were approved as submitted with one correction: Dr. Bhat should be replaced with Dr. Huq in the first announcement.

B.) Report of the Curriculum Committee: Dr. Alvin Amos.

One new course: MSM 218, Barnes History and Methodology, was approved. This course will be taught at the Barnes Foundation once a week. Pre-requisite: ART 100 or ART 200. This course will be start in the fall 209 semester.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A.) NCAA issues: Dr. Dana Flint addressed the faculty on the role of the Faculty Athletic Representative on campus. According to Dr. Flint, his role is to advise and counsel the students and to act as an ombudsman. However, student athletes need to go to their professors first, not directly to him regarding academics issues. Any issues should go through the ordinary appeal process. There should be no direct contact between coaches and teaching faculty about student athletics and course grades, and any lapses of that regulation should be reported immediately. Division II is more stringent than Division III regarding violations, but the most important thing is to report any violations, because a failure to report them will result in worse consequences when they come to light. Dr. Flint will post a website dealing with the role of FAR (Faculty Athletic Representative) and NCAA policies.

B.) Counseling Services: Ms. Rachel Manson, Director of the Women's Center, announced to the faculty that counseling services do exist and are provided in the lower level of Hansberry Hall, as well as in the Health Services Center in Cresson Hall. The counselors are dealing, on a daily basis, with students with emotional and mental health issues such as depression, suicide, and related issues. The staff members include Kalisha Turman, Assistant Director and two therapists: Belinda Madison and Earl Bowen. Ms. Manson distributed a brochure to the faculty.

C.) TLE (Teaching Learning Enhancement) Update: Dr. York Williams distributed a survey regarding Smart Boards. This will help us with future planning of workshops by the TLE Center. He also distributed information about an opportunity for getting certification as a Certified Online Instructor. Dr. Linda Stine showed the faculty how to access the TLE web page

from the Academic Affairs page, or directly at <http://www.lincoln.edu/tle>. The TLE center website has a link to the page called Teaching Matters (the name borrowed from the former print newsletter). On this page, Dr. Stine has posted the names of the recipients of the 2008 Faculty Development Grants. Apples under some of the name link to statements by those faculty members about how the grants helped them become better teachers (“What I learned”).

D) The Culture and Offerings of Liberal Arts Related Curriculum: Dr. Emmanuel Babatunde presented a brief power point presentation, suggesting that Lincoln University needs to expand the liberal arts education, involving all three schools working together under common themes. Dr. Nelson pointed out that Evergreen College in Washington State has maximized the use of this approach and that each year they teach their discipline around a selected theme.

Announcements:

A.) Research and Publications Committee: Dr. Helen Major

The committee is now accepting project proposals for the 2009-2010 school years. The dateline to submit your proposal is April 2, 2009. All applications must be submitted to Megan Hidalgo, Chemistry Department by email.

B. There will a faculty union meeting at the conclusion of the faculty meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Albert M. Bryson
Faculty Secretary