

Lincoln University of Pennsylvania
Faculty Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 6, 2005

Dickey Hall 141

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT Dr. Ivory V. Nelson:

The Board of Trustees did pass your version of the curriculum structure without a dissenting vote. It goes into effect with the beginning of the fall 2006 semester. I want to thank you for your work and input. As you begin to develop the core, you might want to consider whether three hours of math in the core are enough.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Minutes from the November 2005 Meeting were approved. The November 8, 2005 minutes stated, under III. Action Items, C., Recommendations from the Curriculum Committee that “Core Curriculum Learner Outcomes (8 Competencies) statements that were approved by the Joint Committee of EPC and Curriculum so that the body can vote on the Core Curriculum at next month’s meeting” are amended, in line with Dr. James DeBoy’s suggestion, to state “so that the faculty could vote on the joint committee’s recommendation that these two documents be accepted.”

2. Recommendation from the Curriculum Committee

Core Curriculum Revised Philosophy Statement and Eight Learner Competencies

. Dr. James DeBoy:

The core curriculum philosophy has been revised. The two revisions (italicized and in bold) are “Lincoln University fully supports a liberal arts [*and sciences-based*] approach . . .” and “[*Skills in*] the liberal arts and sciences will equip graduates . . .” The eight competencies drive the specific course content in the core.

Dr. Nelson asked what do “value” and “appreciate” mean? Can you state that these are included in the course? How do you measure these competencies in an Algebra course?

Dr. DeBoy pointed to competency number six as addressing a competency relevant to Algebra.

Dr. Loudon: How do you measure variance, the percent of the course?

Dr. Chikwem: What we are talking about is the language; there is too much ambiguity, vagueness, and nebulousness.

Dr. Maazaoui: One of the reasons why this course has been revised is to reflect what students need in the twenty-first century. For instance, this phrase, “increasingly complex, yet unitary world” connotes a concern mainly about your community and your world.

Dr. Richards: If I were to teach a course in investment, how would I apply competency number four?

Dr. Thomas: You would not to apply all eight competencies to your course.

Professor Chapp: We started this process three years ago. We need a strategy to complete this process.

Dr. Nelson: What then shall we do?

Dr. Thomas: We have to be able to measure the degree to which our courses are meeting the goals set forth in the eight competencies.

Dr. DeBoy: For instance, we must collect artifacts of students' work.

Dr. Nelson: If you are ready to adopt this, you must be ready to do the assessment.

Dr. Willis: For each of the eight integrative themes, there may be too much verbiage. Economy of style is my recommendation.

Dr. Nelson: Somewhere we need to all of this together.

Dr. DeBoy: We need to be able to say that SOC101, for example, satisfies one or more of the competencies and which one or ones it satisfies.

Dr. Flint: Normative judgment . . . where is it included?

Dr. Nelson: Each school comes up with a core . . . a grid, with all eight integrative themes.

Dr. Poe: Is there a deadline. After we finish, will there be a majority vote?

Dr. Nelson: Yes there needs to be a majority vote.

3. December Graduate List Mr. James Simington.

The December Graduate List was approved by the faculty with the provision that additions or deletions be made as necessary.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Middle States UpdateDr. Linda Stine and Dr. Patricia Joseph.
Dr. Stine: It is this kind of energy and discussion that show the vitality of our institution. We will need this vitality for the upcoming Middle States review. In 2007, Middle States will visit us and we will engage in a process of self-study. Dr. Joseph: The visit is the starting point of a process. It is a process constructed on 14 points. The 14 points are those

aspects of the institution that we are setting about to make even better. We need to organize a steering committee; so we will need your help in January. Dr. Nelson: Documentation is key. Oral presentation is not good enough. As you go through what you do, it is incumbent on you to document.

2. Report from the Faculty By-Laws Committee . .Mr. Albert M. Bryson: Twenty-one standing committees are too many committees. Those committees that are not contributing anything should be eliminated.
3. Report on Reduction in Majors. Dr. Gladys J. Willis. Dr. Willis gave an overview of the reduction in the number of undergraduate and graduate majors that were cut in order to satisfy the Board of Trustees resolution that the number of majors be reduced by 25%. Among the majors that were cut were Chinese, Russian, and International Affairs. Pure and Applied Math were collapsed into one major. Concern was expressed with regard to cutting languages and International Affairs at a time of globalization and heightened international tensions. Concern was also expressed that the Black Studies major was cut.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Update on the United Way Campaign Dr. Melvin Leaman: Ms. Sharon Strawder, Lincoln University student and United Way Intern, wrote a number of new releases that formed the bases of articles in such local newspapers as the *Chester County Press* and *The Kennett Paper*.

Dr. Nelson, wishing everyone Happy Holidays, adjourned the meeting at 5:53 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Donald J. Bradt
Faculty Secretary