

School of Social Science Meeting
February 21, 2007

Those present:

Ronald Allman, Benjamin Asare, James Beeby, Bernardo Carducci, Donna Dahlgren, Lizabeth Eckerd, William Farrell, Deborah Finkel, Sara Hare, Linda Jasper, Robert Lennartz, Billy Long, Robin Morgan, Bernadette Olson, Gregory Phipps, Yu Shen, Dean Clifford Staten, James St. Clair, Joseph Wert

Dean Staten opened the meeting by introducing Cheying Chen, Associate Vice-Chancellor of Academic Affairs, Deborah Finkel, Dean of Research, and James Kauffman, Director of the ILTE.

Vice-Chancellor Chen gave a short explanation of the division of labor in his office and introduced Deborah Finkel to speak about her research responsibilities and opportunities available for students and faculty. Faculty were given a handout outlining these funding opportunities and web site addresses to get more information. She also pointed out changes to the Web page and an information section added for International Programs grants. Mentors are also available to aide faculty in locating research grant opportunities in specialized areas. She reminded faculty that they are the best resource for students to gain information for student travel funds. Last year only 2 of travel funds were spent. If funds are not spent this year, they will be diverted to other programs. A new electronic route sheet for external grounds which should make it easier to apply is now available. Contact Dr. Finkel about a tutorial on using the new electronic form.

James Kauffman, director of the ILTE, spoke about alternative course deliveries and new ways of presenting course information. Technology is available and the very capable staff of the ILTE is ready to help with your needs.

Vice-Chancellor Chen wrapped up by saying that he believes that faculty development is very important. If you have institutional surveys or other needs, let him know. Faculty also play a big part in the student recruitment and retention effort. He has applied for funds to pay advisors who advise during breaks. Regarding diversity, Heather Hampton, a new Affirmative Action Officer, has been hired and a Diversity Council has been created as well as a Diversity Task force.

Connie Holland spoke for the Fund for the Arts. Over 45,000 school children have been taken to events during the last year as a result of donations to the Fund for the Arts. The fund also sponsors events for adults as well. Please attend the open house Thursday. Cookies and lemonade will be served. One time donations are accepted as well as payroll-deduction donations.

James Kanning introduced Lynn Prinz and Whitney Roberts from Career Services. Lynn distributed folders with information about Career Services. Whitney Roberts addressed the subject of Internships at IU Southeast. She discussed the Internship form (included in the folders) and pointed out that Internships are totally at the discretion of the faculty member. The

amount of work, whether or not it will be graded, and how it will be graded are up to the faculty member. The only exception noted was that Continuing Studies students may only receive Pass/Fail grade options.

Whitney will work with instructors on any problems that arise. Please contact her and please encourage graduating students or those seeking jobs to attend the upcoming job fair.

Dean Staten thanked all the participants for coming. He also had several announcements: The 1998 Mission Statement needs to be revisited due to many factors including new faculty members, new degree programs, addition of the General Education requirement, and other changes. In another matter, each department will be required by the Chancellor to have a written diversity plan by December 1, 2007. Dean Staten asked for volunteers to comprise a committee which will work closely with the Dean to revisit the Mission Statement and to develop a diversity plan for the School of Social Sciences. He would like to have all disciplines represented.

The question was asked, "What is meant by a diversity plan?" Dean Staten said that because diversity is a broad term, many issues were involved including, but not limited to, culture, gender, age, and race. The plan would also concern faculty and courses taught. The plan's composition would be decided by the committee and the dean.

Robin Morgan said that she had polled the psychologists and that Beth Eckerd had noted an interest in the committee. Other disciplines will poll their faculty to get members for the committee.

Dean Staten asked for other announcements and none were offered.

The meeting adjourned at 1:01 p.m.