

School of Social Sciences Meeting Minutes  
January 29, 2008

Those present:

Jean Abshire, James Beeby, Stephanie Bower, Bernardo Carducci, Dana Creamer, Lizabeth Eckerd, Deborah Finkel, William Farrell, Linda Gugin, Thomas Kotulak, Robert Lennartz, Billy Long, Robin Morgan, John Newman, Bernadette Olson, Gregory Phipps, Kelly Ryan, James St. Clair, Valerie Scott, Dean Clifford Staten, Joseph Wert

Dean Staten opened the meeting by introducing Jim Schlinsog, Director of Housing for IU Southeast. Director Schlinsog noted that several myths are making their way around campus. To set the record straight, he announced that construction is on time and that model apartments will be open for viewing in mid-March. The lodges will open in August 2008 one week before the start of fall classes. All units are fully furnished apartments with fully equipped kitchens and bathrooms. Brochures were distributed. There is no set ratio of students to student athletes in the lodges and athletes will not be clustered. Full-time and part-time students are welcome with no upward age limit. No family housing is available at this time for married couples with children or single parents with children. As space permits, IVY Tech students and Jefferson Community College students who plan to attend IU Southeast in the future may be permitted if some rooms are unoccupied by IU Southeast students. Some unoccupied halls may be used for conference housing, especially in summer months. The cost is around \$3200 per semester including all utilities, cable with high speed internet and wireless connections. Each lodge will have a great room, laundry facilities and a computer lab. Parking surrounding the residence halls will be first-come, first served.

A question was asked regarding holding open some rooms for international students who may not have clearance from the State Department in time to apply for the residence halls. Director Schlinsog said that he would bring up this subject for discussion. When asked if any thought had been given to having an Honors wing cluster, Director Schlinsog said that this idea is under consideration. Dean Staten thanked Director Schlinsog for visiting the meeting.

Dean Staten introduced Debbie Finkel, Acting Director of the Master of Liberal Studies Program to speak about MLS. Acting Director Finkel reported that an external review was conducted and the reviewer created a list of perceived problems with the MLS Program. A list of the problems noted and proposed solutions was distributed. In order to make the program more viable and credible several new items were proposed including:

1. Hiring a new director who would teach 2 MLS program courses, improve recruitment and retention, improve student advising, improve assessment and increase faculty involvement.
2. Applying existing admissions standards and introducing new MLS seminar (D510) taught by MLS director.
3. Introducing new MLS course D601 (introduction to thesis) and creating thesis options tailored to real-world goals of students.
4. Developing a list of core competencies to be addressed by all MLS seminars; soliciting applications to teach MLS seminars, to be reviewed by MLS Advisory Committee;

- providing funds for development of MLS seminar courses.
5. Using newly created MLS course D601-Introduction to thesis to relieve some of the workload and providing funds to support MLS thesis committee chair and members.
  6. Generating a list of Atrue@ upper level courses in each program that can feasibly be taken for graduate level credit; providing a list of examples/suggestions/competencies for faculty on how to add graduate component to their upper level course; requiring students to contact faculty earlier to request MLS elective option thus allowing faculty to suggest pre-course work; offering 500-level courses for advanced undergraduate and graduate students; and ensuring MLS students are advised early regarding electives.

Dean Staten thanked Acting-Director Finkel for providing this useful information.

Announcements:

1. Discipline Review Committees should turn in their salary recommendations to the Dean by March 1<sup>st</sup>. Be sure to submit 2 copies of your annual reports (one copy to the Dean and one copy for your Discipline Review Committee).
2. Some Multi-Op student evaluation reports may look different. We have a new person at the Bureau of Evaluative Studies and Testing (BEST) this semester who handled the scanning. Some of your reports may look a little different but they contain the same information as previous semesters. Things should return to status quo by next semester. If you have any questions, please ask Lesley Deal.

With no further business or announcements, the meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.