College of Arts and Sciences
Assembly Meeting
September 21, 2010
Oakland Room, Oakland Center


Members absent: Elder, Howell, Schweitzer, Seymour, Whitehead

Ex-officio present: Stewart, Moore, Sudol

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 p.m. by Dean Sudol.

2. Appointment of Secretary, Dikka Berven, and Parliamentarian, Jerry Grossman

Dean Sudol appointed Dikka Berven as Secretary and Jerry Grossman as Parliamentarian.

3. Approval of the Minutes, Meeting of April 13, 2010

The minutes of the meeting of April 13, 2010 were unanimously approved, with the following changes:

Jerry Grossman observed that under item #3, in the first sentence (“Discussion was re-opened for the second reading of the motion to approve the College of Arts and Sciences Exploratory Requirement, which had been tabled at the 1/19/2010 meeting of the Assembly”), the word “tabled” should be changed to “postponed.” Also, under the same item, the fourth sentence reads “Motion to put the revised proposal back on the table was made by Ostergaard, seconded by Stamps, and unanimously approved.” Grossman opined that the word “table” should be changed to “floor.”

4. Election to the Executive Committee (two vacancies): recommended members

Recommended members were:
At Large 2010-2012—Andrea Eis, Art and Art History
Language/Literature 2010-2012—Gregory Giberson, Writing and Rhetoric
Social Sciences 2010-2012—Richard Stamps, Sociology and Anthropology

Continuing members:
Humanities 2009-2011—George Stoffan, Music, Theatre and Dance
Mathematics/Science 2009-2011—Keith Berven, Biological Sciences
Associate Dean Stewart explained that there had been a change in membership to the Assembly causing the above recommendations to be changed. George Stoffan has been replaced on the Assembly, and so he is not a continuing member of the Executive Committee. Therefore, a member from the Humanities is needed. The election was handled by Kevin Lamm of the Elections Committee, and resulted in the following CAS Executive Committee:

- At Large 2010-2012—Jay Meehan (Sociology and Anthropology)
- Language/Literature 2010-2012—Gregory Giberson, Writing and Rhetoric
- Social Sciences 2010-2012—Richard Stamps, Sociology and Anthropology
- Humanities 2009-2011—Andrea Eis (Art and Art History)

Continuing member 2009-2011—Keith Berven (Biological Sciences)

6. Approval of Recommended Members for the Graduate Studies Committee (GSC) 2010-2012

- Lisa Dalton, Social Work (At Large)
- George Milne, History (At Large)
- Kuniko Nielsen, Linguistics (Language/Literature)

Continuing members:
- Edith Chopin, Chemistry (Mathematics/Science)
- Diane Hartmus, Political Science (Social Science)
- Jessica Payette, Music, Theatre and Dance (Humanities)

The motion was made to approve these members (moved by Lewis, seconded by Berven, K.) The members of the Assembly unanimously approved.

7. Approval of Recommended Members for the Committee on Instruction (COI) 2010-2012

- Deborah Blair, Music, Theatre and Dance (Humanities)
- Dorin Drignei, Mathematics and Statistics (Mathematics/Sciences)
- Jeff Youngquist, Communication (At Large)

Approval of Chair for Committee on Instruction: Keith Williams

Continuing members:
- Andrea Knutson, English (Language/Literature)
- Lori Ostergaard, Writing and Rhetoric (At Large)
- Keith Williams, Psychology (Social Science)

The motion was made to approve these members (moved by Eis, seconded by Lewis).
The members of the Assembly unanimously approved.

8. Approval of Recommended Members for the Elections Committee 2010-2013

Claude Baillargeon, Art and Art History (Humanities)
Approval of Chair for Elections Committee: Scott Smith
Continuing members:
Kevin Lamm, English (Language/Literature)
Scott Smith, Sociology and Anthropology 2008-2011 (Social Science)

The members of the Assembly unanimously approved.

9. CAS Theme Update

- Associate Dean Stewart stated that the events for this year’s CAS theme “Frontiers and Borders” had started last week. There will be several events upcoming in the Fall. The events for the Winter semester are still being shaped up. Next year’s theme (2011/12) will be “Water,” and for the year after (2012/13), the theme will be “Creative and Critical Minds.” The CAS website has all the events for this year posted, and there will be fliers coming out soon as well.
- Richard Stamps asked whether it is too late to add an event for next winter. Mr. Stewart replied that the problem is that the funding is used up. Requests for funding were five times the amount of money that was available. The theme is not supported by the CAS budget but rather is supported entirely by gifts. Mr. Stamps pointed out that it will be the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, and he said that this event could be acknowledged in the CAS theme program.

10. College Updates

Dean Sudol announced that some faculty positions had been released. There were 42 submitted, with two carried over from before. There are 21 vacancies (retirements) which was an unusually high number, and new program budgets as well. It is necessary to prioritize. So far, 15 positions have been released to the CAS in the first round. The professional schools’ positions had not yet been released. When they are, it will come back to the CAS again. Mr. Sudol observed that we are going into the worst fiscal year ever. State funding is down, and there is no possibility of recovery. There is a 2.6% cut this year. There will be no more stimulus money next year, so a 10% cut is anticipated for next year. It will be a “brutal” year ahead. K. Berven asked if the same pattern will be followed in the next round in which the retirement positions will be replaced. Mr. Sudol said the process has to be dynamic. It depends on the positions, the relevancy, and the area of the position. He pointed out that everything in the budget comes from the same pot. Jay Meehan asked whether it was expected that new programs would be considered. Mr. Sudol said that positions associated with new programs are problematic because it is hard to predict enrollments. Mr. Meehan asked whether there is still a way of rewarding departments for good enrollments. Mr. Sudol pointed out that there is a ‘halo effect’ that
favors new programs. Mr. Estes asked when the second round will be. Mr. Sudol said that the professional schools had to be decided first, and so it could be another week before the second round occurred. However, the CAS has the advantage because faculty salaries are so much lower. He said that after the critical needs of the other schools are decided, they will get back to the CAS.

Mr. Sudol passed out a handout that summarized enrollments. Enrollments are up 10% in the CAS compared with 2% in the university as a whole. Associate Dean Kathy Moore noted that we will be over 19,000 students overall in the university, including graduate and undergraduate students. Mr. Sudol said that 3.6% is attributable to continuing students, which is a reflection of better retention rates.

Mr. Sudol announced that the October CAS Assembly meeting would be the Open Meeting for all faculty members in the CAS. The Marian Wilson Award will be given at that time.

11. Good and Welfare

Jerry Grossman asked about the status of the college distribution requirement. Sandy Dykstra replied that the new language will be in the 2011/2012 catalogue. Mary Lewis asked when the new distribution requirement will apply. Ms. Dykstra answered that there will be a phase-in period. Students can elect to move up to the exploratory if they wish. Students coming in the Fall 2011 will be using the new requirement. Mr. Grossman asked if faculty can have a copy of the wording for advising purposes. Ms. Lewis asked if there will be a running log on the CAS website of courses. Mr. Stewart replied that there will be a website for exploratory sets. Ms. Dykstra explained the two options available, and said that the CAS will work with departments.

12. Adjournment

There was a motion to adjourn (moved by Graves, seconded by many).

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dikka Berven, secretary