

Faculty Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2012
SEM II D1105, 1:00-3:00pm

Faculty Chair Andrew Reece opened the meeting at 1:16.

The following announcements were made:

- Executive Director of Development and Alumni Programs, Amanda Walker, reminded faculty of the 40th anniversary conference on May 18-20.
- Amanda also provided information about the \$1.5 million Gates Scholarship that provides donors an opportunity to acknowledge faculty.
- Rebecca Sunderman provided a collective bargaining update, indicating that negotiation sessions are ongoing.
- Nancy Murray introduced three new visiting faculty – Dena Roberts, Steve Cifka and Trisha Towanda.

Chair-elect Nominations – Andrew indicated there is a need to fill the chair-elect position because David McAvity, the current chair-elect, has been selected as an academic dean beginning next year which conflicts with his term as Faculty Chair for 2012-2013. The following nominations were made:

- Heather Heying
- Jean Mandeberg

Liberal Arts Discussion – Andrew indicated this discussion is a lead-in to long-range curriculum work. Michael Zimmerman continued to frame the discussion by reminding faculty that this is a continuation of the academic statement proposal that was passed last quarter. He thanked the RTaLE group, including Nancy Koppelman who has agreed to shepherd the implementation process associated with the resolution that was passed last quarter. Michael asked faculty to now turn their attention to the part of RTaLE's initial charge, since deferred, related to the curriculum.

Michael asked that today's discussion be focused beyond the College. Faculty were asked why the public should support what we do. A lengthy discussion ensued. In closing, Michael thanked faculty for the discussion, indicating the discussion affirmed his impression during his interview that faculty here are different in their ability to engage in this kind of discussion in such a deliberate fashion.

Andrew indicated that the Agenda Committee has been mindful of the faculty expressed interest in substantive conversation on fewer issues and that, while there will be some additional business at the next meeting, the bulk of the meeting will be to continue this discussion.