

**Illinois Wesleyan University**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of the General Faculty**  
**December 3, 2007**

**The meeting was called to order** at 4:08, the presence of a quorum being noted.

**A representative of the Student Senate** was admitted as an observer.

**The minutes** of the November faculty meeting were approved.

**CUPP — Prof. Kearney**

- A written report of CUPP meetings has been distributed to the faculty.
- CUPP still has work remaining on administrative structure and committee structure issues.
- Comment: I'd find it useful if CUPP laid out a timetable for handling issues.
- Response: That's a good idea. We can give a timetable for presenting advice, but not for action which is the prerogative of the administration.
- Comment: I'm glad to see that CUPP is emphasizing the importance of open channels upward from the faculty to the administration.
- Comment: One governance issue is whether or not we keep CUPP at all as it's a powerless body. CUPP might be replaced by a governing body.
- Response: CUPP is advisory. It seems to have the most power when recommending on new faculty lines than is the case on other issues. Sometimes other issues are addressed by task forces
- Comment: CUPP reports reflect issues raised by constituents. Some issues don't seem to get carried over. This is no reflection on individuals, but there's a lot of wheel-spinning in CUPP.
- Response: I agree; constituent issues are raised because some faculty believe CUPP is the best venue for the issue and because faculty seem comfortable raising issues to CUPP.

**Promotion and Tenure Committee — Prof. Bollivar**

- PAT has distributed written reports to the faculty.
- No questions were posed to PAT.

**Faculty Development Committee — Prof. Theune**

- FDC has distributed written reports to the faculty.
- No questions were posed to FDC.

**Administrative Report — Provost Cunningham**

- Re/ writing proposal
  - = At the last faculty meeting you voted to change the writing intensive requirement to require one such course by the end of sophomore yr, if resources permit; this requirement is to begin in 2009-10
  - = We hope to hear about Mellon grant. We will appoint an interim person to head an implementation committee. The committee will work with constituencies and gather impact data (such as current course offerings, resources required for a possible cap of 12 students, etc.).
- Re/ open forum on restructuring held last Thursday
  - = There was mixed response regarding divisional directors, restructuring current duties of

administrators.

- = I liked ideas like fostering leadership in the faculty and getting ideas bubbling up (or percolating) to the administration.
  - = Does this mean a middle structure or changing governance? We don't know yet.
  - = Action items include meeting with CUPP, addressing structure, and jointly preparing a proposal by end of spring semester.
  - = I would welcome email comments to me on this issue too, especially from those unable to attend open sessions.
- I plan to have some open lunches with faculty beginning early in the Spring (PRESUMED TO MEAN SEMESTER RATHER THAN SEASON).
  - Note that the next faculty meeting is on January 7, the first day of class. That may give a shorter window of time to submit agenda items for those taking time off for the holidays.

### **Administrative Report — President Wilson**

- Announcement: Thirty-two students will graduate in December. Each is allowed to invite a faculty member to a dinner on December 13<sup>th</sup>.
- December 14<sup>th</sup> is our traditional Holiday Luncheon.
- There are four honorary degree nominations. The committee (and board representatives) will do a first round review. Then we'll do some follow ups before any decision is announced. There is one carry-over award.
- A musing (SPACING INTENTIONAL): One thing we learned in the identity study is that, for a variety of constituencies, there is concern about what happens to students at IWU as a result of the 4 yr. experience (*i.e.* post-graduation successes however defined). I consider it important for departments to document the success of graduates. Keep a file and perhaps check on grads who have been out a few years. Departments might post that information as part of their departmental web sites. Raw data doesn't have the richness of anecdotal information that I can use to punctuate remarks to constituents.
- Question: Can we get contact information without going through alumni affairs? We were told that no mass mailings could come from departments.
- Comment: Physics was told "sure" when we asked for contact information..
- Comment: The fall report (from Placement) misses a lot of students. Perhaps we could ask students to put job information on their "graduation cards".
- Comment: My department sends mailings, but a lot come back undelivered.
- Comment: We survey our senior sem(inar) students regarding post-graduation plans.
- Comment: Another university has email forwarding for grads with an address including "dot alum" or something similar.

### **Old business**

- None.

### **New business**

- None

**The meeting was adjourned** at 4:37 p.m.

These minutes submitted by  
Bill Walsh, Faculty Secretary