

## DEANS COUNCIL MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2008

1:00 – 3:00 P.M.

President's Conference Room

Members Present: Abraham, Bickley (guest), Bowers, Edwards, Furnish, Kasvinsky, Khawaja, Kobulnicky, Licata, Singler, Yemma

### 1. Announcements

- (Licata) The Williamson College of Business Administration's next accreditation visit will take place in February 2010, and during 2008-2009 the self-study report will be completed.
- (Furnish) Students from the History Department, under the guidance of Tom Leary, have provided text for an exhibit entitled *Dearest Kitty: A Slovakian Childhood in the Shadow of the Holocaust*, about Kitty Weicherz, who was born in the same year as Anne Frank. YSU students contributed material for this exhibition opening on June 25, 2008, at the Slovak Republic Embassy in Washington D.C.
- (Khawaja) Dr. Khawaja said a phone call from Congressman Ryan announced that YSU is written into an upcoming appropriations bill on energy research for \$2M. Congressman Ryan is on the Appropriations Committee and is a great friend to YSU; whatever we can do to support the positive development of relationships in all areas will be to YSU's advantage.
- (Khawaja) Dr. Khawaja said there has been longstanding concern about how commencement speakers are selected. There have been ongoing conversations at the Cabinet level. Thus, a list of 18 to 20 potential commencement speakers/honorary degree recipients will be gathered from Deans Council, other constituents, and the Board of Trustees. The names will be sent through the Senate body for approval, and the president will select honorary degree recipients from this list. Council members should expect a call in the near future for worthy names.
- (Bowers) Dr. Bege Bowers received word that the HLC readers' panel agreed with the site-team's report. The report will be presented to the HLC on June 23, and the Board of Trustees of the HLC then will act upon the matter within 2 weeks, so that the Physical Therapy students can graduate in August.
- (Maraffa) Dr. Tom Maraffa reported that enrollment 10 weeks from the start of fall semester is about ½ percent ahead of last year, and the graduate headcount also is ahead of last year, as is the FAFSA processing--500 more applications have been received this year. The president is emphasizing getting returning students back in college--action at the college level is very important.

## 2. ACE Negotiations Update (Bickley)

Craig Bickley gave a brief update on the status of the ACE negotiations. Bickley believes ACE is being given a good and fair offer. At this point, the discussion was considered confidential, and Dr. Khawaja asked Council not to share the information.

## 3. 2008-09 Divisional/Institutional Priorities (Bowers)

Dr. Bowers previously had e-mailed the deans about the 2008-2009 annual plans and 2007-2008 annual reports due by the end of July. She, Dr. Khawaja, and Dr. Singler will review lists of priorities the deans submit and then draft divisional priorities that rise to the institutional level. (See the attachment for information regarding the 6-30-08 deadline for college institutional priorities.)

## 4. 2008-09 Academic Strategic Plan Priorities (Singler)

Dr. Singler passed out a recap of the information regarding the 2007-2008 academic priorities pursued during the last academic year. The deans will be polled shortly to come up with another list of strategic priorities for the 2008-09 academic year that will be addressed during the upcoming academic year. This list also will include priorities that need to be continued from 2007-2008. (See the attachment.)

A short discussion followed on how to engage the faculty to be fully aware of the Academic Strategic Plan. Dr. Khawaja said the challenge before us, as we redefine our own place, is to bring the whole group together, and he is open for suggestions on how to best accomplish this task.

## 5. OALA Nominee (Bowers)

Dr. Bowers announced that a committee met yesterday to select YSU's nominee for the Ohio Academic Leadership Academy (OALA), a mentoring program for relatively junior faculty members from underrepresented groups to learn more about the administration process. Daniel Ayana from the History Department was chosen for the program, and Annette Burden was chosen as the alternate.

## 6. Old/New Business

The Freshman Convocation will be held on August 24, at 2:00 p.m., in Beeghly Center, and will adjourn to a picnic around the fountain. In case of rain, Kilcawley will be utilized.

## 7. Adjourn

*Minutes submitted by Debbie Withrow*