

# COLLEGE ASSEMBLY

## APRIL 15, 2004

### I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the College Assembly was called to order at 12:30 p.m. on April 15, 2004 in Room 332 of Bobet Hall. Dean Frank Scully chaired the assembly and secretary Ms. Andrell Gautier was present. Rev. Leo Nicoll, S.J. led the invocation.

### II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of February and March were approved. The motion was passed unanimously.

### III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### A) Drawing for Annual Fund Participation

Every year the College has a drawing for all those who gave \$25.00 or more to the Annual Fund. The winners of this year's drawing are David Moore and Georgia Gresham. Each will receive a \$100 Gift Certificate to Commander's Palace.

#### B) Department Contribution to Annual Fund

The Dean announced that four departments had 100% participation. They will get a contribution from the Dean to enhance their annual fund. The departments are: Classical Studies, Physics, Political Science and Psychology. Dr. Scully said that he is very pleased with this year's annual drive. The Dean added that those who gave greater than .5% of their annual salary will receive a special gift from the Dean's Office. The Dean thanked everyone who participated and stressed that it enables him to go out and sell the College that much more.

### IV. OLD BUSINESS

#### **The A&S Response to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Law School**

Dr. Marcus Smith introduced this at the last College Assembly meeting. A copy of the corrected wording for the resolution was distributed by the agenda to accept and move along. Dr. Smith commented that in the MOU there is a less developed list of how the surplus can be used. It stipulates that it is suppose to be used for scholarship and financial aid awards in excess of the annual budget but Item D states "Salary Equity Increases for Faculty" and in the document that went to the Board of Trustees, there are a couple of other items such as "Retirement Buy Out Packages" which are things that we are unable to get. The Law School has also put together a Restricted Capital Account in the amount of a surplus of \$5 million dollars and Dr. Smith expressed that if it is going to be raised out of general revenues then it ought to be done openly and with some discussion. He added that the UBC mentioned City College's revenue sharing model of 80-20-- they keep 80% of revenue and give 20% back to the general fund, which is the same numbers used in the MOU. Dr. Smith asked if we are moving to this idea as a general financial management model and if not, should we start talking about it. He wondered what it would mean if A&S had a similar general revenue sharing model and what would the consequences be for the other Colleges.

Dean Scully said that this wording in the resolution is the right way to go and we need to get the President to think about doing away with these silos instead of creating new ones. He believes that Dr. Smith's interest in pulling the numbers to see if A&S went on its own and what it would mean to the rest of the University would help that issue. The motion to approve the corrected wording of the Resolution Regarding Memorandum of Understanding was passed unanimously.

***Be it resolved that the College of Arts and Sciences deplores the Memorandum of Understanding with the School of Law and asks that the incoming President of Loyola***

*carefully consider rescinding or revisiting the MOU in consultation with the deans and faculty during AY 2004-05.*

V. **NEW BUSINESS**

A) **Motion to amend to College Planning Team protocol to enable revision of the A&S Strategic Plan**

The Dean said that we have a weighty issue that we need to take up. He does not see anything controversial but it needs to be introduced and discussed at this meeting for the information and action of the Assembly. Dr. McCaughan addressed the Council in Ms. Gresham's absence. In the CPT's on-going work in trying to monitor the progress on the College Strategic Plan, they realized that the Protocol did not specify any particular mechanism for adding new initiatives and incorporating them into the Strategic Plan. The proposed amendment are guidelines that can be used by any A&S faculty member to propose a new initiative in support of the existing plan and for such proposals to be reviewed by the CPT. Dr. McCaughan added that if a new objective is proposed and seems to alter the outline of the strategic plan it would be brought back to the College Assembly. A motion to adopt this amendment to the CPT Protocol to enable us to add new initiatives to the Strategic Plan was made. The College agreed that it be tabled for the next meeting.

B) **The Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures Department proposal to strengthen the language requirement**

The Dean said that this has been discussed in the Council of Chairs for a number of months and the Chairs were asked to bring this to their departments for preliminary response, which is now coming before the Assembly. The Dean said this is a very important issue that we need to consider. Dr. Eileen Doll provided a power point presentation to the College. She stated that before she came to Loyola there were plans to implement a language requirement and the moment it may be right to strengthen the requirement by adding one additional semester at this point—the overall goal is to have two years of a language. Based on their mission, they started to reevaluate what they were doing and why our students were dissatisfied with their language experience. Of the 33 peer institutions, Loyola is at the bottom of language requirements. Dr. Doll said that by adding an additional (third) semester we can move students into the intermediate low level of survival proficiency, where they can function in the language abroad—they are unable to do this in the first year. She said that Loyola's current requirement is misleading the students and makes it look like two semesters is enough and relatively the outcome on the student exit survey for the past three years has been poor to fair. Dr. Doll stressed that this proposal would not add to the students time or the course requirements that they might have. Dr. Shuh questioned why the language requirement is not part of the common curriculum, instead of being placed into a student's major credit hours, which takes away from their program. She proposes that students take additional language classes using their general electives. Some faculty suggested several types of 200 level courses, each emphasizing the general skills. Other members of the Assembly stated that three (3) is not enough but a student should not be forced to take an additional class, if it is not their interest. Dr. Smith suggested that maybe we can link the programs between Loyola and Tulane to get an efficiency of scale and add more "muscle" to the program. Dr. Bourgeois wondered if we should consider this in the overall SACS approach and that we revisit the current 120 hours, do an overall evaluation of the curriculum requirements to include the common curriculum, and that the language requirement be considered in the same general context. He also added that it is on the books and approved by this body a two-year requirement but we never implemented it, perhaps due to budget constraints. Documents concerning this item are available for viewing in the Dean's Office. The Dean suggested that this proposal be discussed at several College Assembly meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 PM.