

TO: Enrica Ardemagni, Liberal Arts Faculty Assembly President
FROM: Gabrielle Bersier, Chair, 2012-2013 Faculty Affairs Committee
RE: Report on 2012-2013 Committee Business
DATE: May 10, 2013

As the Chair of the 2012-2013 Faculty Affairs Committee, I am submitting a report on the committee's work in the past academic year.

The FAC met four times during the Fall 2012 semester, and four times during the Spring 2013 semester. The members of the committee were: Jack Kaufmann-McKivigan (History, new), Lynn Pike (Sociology, continuing), Jonathan Rossing (Communication Studies, continuing), and Susan Shepherd (English, continuing). Thom Upton (English) served as Agenda Council representative, and Marianne Wokeck as Dean's Office ex officio member. All committee members need to be complimented on their perfect attendance to each meeting, which made it possible for the committee to move swiftly through its busy agenda, while allowing for open and thorough discussion of important issues.

During the Fall semester, the FAC discussed and drafted a new Liberal Arts faculty policy on providing course release to faculty who regularly direct theses, or teach independent study courses beyond their standard teaching load. The new policy, based on 45 accumulated credits, and adequate documentation to department chairs, was approved with minor amendments during the first Faculty Assembly meeting of the Spring 2013 semester.

During the Spring semester, the FAC screened, discussed, and selected finalists for the Liberal Arts Medal of Distinction, and recipients for the three Outstanding Faculty awards. Additionally, the FAC discussed and made several amendments to the Liberal Arts By-Laws, and initiated a discussion of a clearer and updated electronic posting of all past and current committee activities on the Liberal Arts Website.

The Committee also undertook discussion of a new draft policy on Clinical Faculty positions within the school, which will be finalized and submitted to Faculty Assembly vote in Fall 2013.

To conclude, the Committee as a whole wished to thank the Office of Academic Affairs, and particularly Associate Dean Marianne Wokeck, and her secretary Candice Smith for their help and assistance throughout the busy year.

Thank you to all, and best wishes for your summer!