

Academic Council Minutes  
April 10, 2008

Present: Green, Tim Sehr, Kintzele, Sciame-Giesecke, Cameron, Widman, Hakes, Roales, Calhoon, Hendricks, Dibie, Stachacz, Pati, Cantu, Stroman

1. Tim Sehr discussed the budget. (Please see the attachment). There is approximately \$15,000 left that has not been allocated. Stuart will send something out to the Deans so they can submit proposals for receiving some of these funds for things such as travel for faculty development.
2. Sharon Calhoon discussed SORT (Student Observation Response Team). The faculty need a person to report to and go to when they are faced with disruptive behavior in the classroom. We need to have workshops on how to recognize the signs. Students need to be able to give their input. The Student Code of Conduct is being revised and there will be a website to go to.
3. Sue Sciame-Giesecke discussed our accreditation activities. Several people went to visit IU South Bend who had their visit in November. Our criterion chairs met with their criterion chairs and received lots of good advice. We have their self-study and will be using it to help do ours. There is a group going to a national meeting tomorrow to get updates and new information. Bob Appleson is coming to campus on May 15 to look at Criterion 1. May have more meetings to educate the campus. Directors of graduate programs will work with Paul Nowak to market graduate programs.
4. VSA (Voluntary System of Accountability – Sharon Calhoon (see attachment). This initiative is sweeping across the country. It is one of only three exams to be used for assessment. The Educational Policies Committee should take a look at it and decide on a test by next year. Representatives of these tests will be happy to come and meet with different committees.
5. Take Back The Night – Kathryn Widman. TBTN is on April 22 at 5:30 pm in Alumni Hall. The Mayor will speak. Don't know yet if there will be a scholarship winner. Donations are down from last year but participation and other activities are up. Seventeen classes have done something for TBTN. Kathryn and Shirley Aamidor are presenting at the American Democracy Project National meeting in June. Shirley will present from a faculty members standpoint and Kathryn will present from a student's standpoint.