

Academic Council  
November 15, 2007

Present: Green, Kintzele, Calhoon, Sehr, Roales, Cameron, Stroman, Thomas, Pati, Cantu, Sciame-Giesecke, Hakes; Guest: Kathryn Holcomb

1. Kathryn Holcomb talked to the Council about the new Center for Research and Creative Activity. We have \$24,000 in funding for the Center. See below for more information on the Center:

## **The Center for Research and Creative Activity**

### **Mission statement**

The Center for Research and Creative Activity will support and expand student and faculty research and creative activity at Indiana University Kokomo. Our goal is to engage and empower faculty efforts to integrate original student research and creative activity throughout the curriculum and to provide sponsored mentored experiences for students.

### **Services**

- Sponsor events to highlight and support student and faculty research
  - Two symposiums for student research: mid first semester symposium for freshmen and sophomore students' research, scheduled for November 14-15; mid-February symposium for junior and senior students' research (posters and oral presentations)
  - Co-sponsor the FACET Faculty Workshop on infusing undergraduate research into curriculum. (Dr. Julio Rivera, Carthage College, Kenosha, Wisconsin – February 1, 2008)
  - Research presentations
  - Programs with library, CTLA
- Producing undergraduate research and creative activity publications
  - Newsletter reporting on student research and creative activity
  - Journal/magazine of creative student work
  - Website
    - Publicize conferences and conference deadlines
    - Research opportunities for students
    - Profiles of student research
- Provide support for faculty and student research
  - Student travel grants
  - Student grants-in-aid
  - Research consultants for faculty and students
  - Undergraduate Research Summer Institute (URSI) grants

If we could somehow get research woven through the entire student experience, this would be something to make us a unique institution. Are there faculty on campus who are ready to share their expertise with students to help them with their research? Possibly Kathy could get a list of the kinds of things that students may need help with and see who might be willing to consult with the students on those things. Possibly the Center could provide some supplemental funding to help faculty who spend substantial amounts of time working with the students.

#### Announcements:

- At the December 7<sup>th</sup> Board of Trustees meeting, there will be a presentation on all the wonderful things we have done with CTE money. The idea being that we want to put an end to the kind of accounting procedures we have had to go through and strict limitations on these funds. We need some flexibility and leave things at the discretion of the Chancellors. We are putting together a final report to give to the Trustees on this day. We are also asking for approval of our Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree. Stuart will also present our new Center for Economic Education. It has been approved by research administration at IU and is going on the agenda for ALC and if approved, will be our second official center on this campus.
- Roya Hakakian was the author of our freshman reading book and she came to campus and gave six presentations. Purdue is talking to us about doing something similar. Maybe we could partner with them to find an author who could come and make presentations.
- What kinds of feedback are we getting from Bob Bontrager? The activities Kokomo is engaging in with the research center is a good example of the kind of Cinergy and alignments Bontrager thinks are good for this campus and don't happen frequently enough. Also, a lot of decisions made on this campus are made by very few people with little input from committees outside that little group. On this campus the Chancellor and the Vice Chancellor for Administration & Finance make the big decisions. We need to give the deans greater authority over their budget and look at a way of changing to a budget model that gives, over the long term, greater authority to the units themselves and accountability in areas like enrollments, retention, program review, etc. Areas that budget measures and incentives to target enrollment goals.
- Stuart will put together a Student Success Committee of 8 or 9 people consisting of the following types of representation: faculty, professional staff, non-exempt staff, and students. We will look for a mix of individuals who have experience in looking at student data and who have familiarity with the issues that bear on student success. Beginning with the Strategic Action Plans as a template, this group will be asked to bring back recommendations to move to a campus-wide conversation.