

AQUINAS SCHOLARS FACULTY BOARD MEETING

MARCH 2, 2017

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Update on conversations with Wendy Wyatt about process for seeking next Director

Wendy has drafted a job profile document and is formalizing things with Rob Riley about the process of searching for the next Director. The plan is to begin the search with current and former Faculty Board members. Assuming she finds a satisfactory replacement, the new Director would shadow me next year and take over the following year.

2. Internal Program Review notification update

My best guess is that this will be put on hold until after Wendy names a new Director. I have not heard anything more on this.

3. Application Essay Review teams: Questions/Issues?

No issues reported. Erica will be contacting everyone once the bulk of the applications come in—right at the deadline—as usual.

November—James Heyman & Jim Shovein

December—Cathy Craft-Fairchild & Roxanne Prichard

January—Peter Distelzweig & Frank Haug

February—Eric Fort & Jan Frank

March—Miriam Itzkowitz & Ryan Bremner & all hands on deck!

4. Application Essay topic—a change? Thoughts?

We talked about this at our last meeting. Peter had said he would contact Roxanne and James about coming up with a few ideas/proposals about the Application Essay. I'm not sure where things stand on this. Perhaps we should wait until the new Director is named and he/she can make changes if necessary.

5. Dan Meyer, underrepresented students, and Honors Seminar Book Scholarships update

Dan is gone. They have named interim staff to run things. Wendy and I are scheduled to meet with them later this month.

At our final meeting in the fall of 2016, we decided that we will need to revisit the underrepresented student matter at our next meeting in the Spring of 2017. The meeting was to include the following topics: 1. The diversification/application invitation threshold question; 2. The application process and

essay changes (James, Peter, and Roxanne had suggestions about how we might tweak this part of the process); and 3. Our recruitment strategies and activities.

The Honors Seminar Book Scholarship request has been made (for three years of funding). We have not received the latest budget requests, so this is still pending.

6. Meeting with current students who were invited to apply after Fall semester

You received the invite to yesterday's event.

7. HONR Seminar designation update

Things are making their way through the various curriculum committees. Lisa Waldner does not foresee any problems with this request/change.

8. Student Board Retreat Update—from Katelin Kruger

The Student Board met on February 11, 2017 to discuss plans for next year. Katelin summarized the main points—new Treasurer position, Library study room, Symposium topic (Social Justice), and discussion about making the Program more diverse. Please check the Scholars' web site for the minutes of a very productive meeting.

9. Program Perks Update—from Katelin

Katelin summarized the current state of things per an email follow-up from Wendy Wyatt. Not much progress—but things are on Wendy's radar

10. Peter Distelzweig's Seminar update

So far, so good. He has lots of faculty pairs visiting and speaking in the Seminar. You can ask him to add you to the Blackboard site for the course to see how things are going—and even ask to visit seminar—it's on Mondays at 1:30 pm in 481 JRC.

11. Future Board Members from units—Terms expiring for Jan, Miriam, Jim & Frank

Jim and Jan have re-upped their membership on the Faculty Board. I'll be contacting Dean Weinkauff (after Frank speaks to him) and Dean Shank for replacements for Miriam and Frank. Sarah Heimovics (Biology) will be a sabbatical sub for Eric Fort next fall.

12. LLC update and planning for next year

Just had big LLC meeting called by Dean of Students Karen Lange. Faculty and staff and Administration members attended. We're in the process of working out the details for an expanding role for LLC's.

13. Freshman Year Experience update—PHIL 115 (Fall) and THEO 101 (Spring)

Fall course evaluations and Honors Program evaluations of the common sections were mixed. The Philosophy professors split on the IDEA forms. The Honors Program evaluations were very positive.

14. Call for Proposals for Seminars (Summer and Fall 2018 and Spring 2019—Due May 5, 2017)

I plan to send these out after Spring Break. There will be three calls with the deadline of May 5, 2017.

15. Student Board Meetings—3-9; 3-30; 4-20; 5-4

If you are available to attend. You'll also be receiving an invitation from Erica Berglund about the Honors Convocation ceremony—scheduled for 5-6:30 pm on May 2 in ASC Woulfe hall.

16. Calendar for upcoming meetings—4-27-17 (12-1:15) and 5-15-17 at Davanni's for Proposal review (1-3 pm)