

AQUINAS SCHOLARS FACULTY BOARD MEETING

OCTOBER 18, 2017

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Welcome and Introductions

Welcome to new Faculty Board Members: Teresa Collett (Law School). Welcome back to Ryan Bremner (Psychology), Roxanne Prichard (Psychology) and Cathy Craft-Fairchild (English)—who's on sabbatical and being replaced by Sal Pane, No one from Social Work (Social Work), Frank Haug (Graduate Program in Software/Engineering), Jim Shovein (Finance/OCB), Jan Frank (Teacher Ed/CELC), Eric Fort (Chemistry)—who's on sabbatical and been named the new Director starting July 1, 2018—and who is being replaced by Sarah Heimovics from Biology, Peter Distelzweig (Philosophy) and James Heyman (Marketing/OCB). Welcome also to Student Board Representative, Katie Ray (President).

2. Terms for serving on the Board—future Board Members from units

3-year Term:

Jan Frank—CELC
Frank Haug—ENGR
Jim Shovein—OCB
Teresa Collett—LAW
???--SSW

2-year Term:

Ryan Bremner—CAS (Psychology)--#4
Roxanne Prichard—CAS (Psychology)--#4 (At-Large)
Cathy Craft-Fairchild—CAS (English)--#1

1-year Term:

Eric Fort—CAS (Chemistry)--#3
James Heyman—OCB (Marketing)
Peter Distelzweig—CAS (Philosophy)--# 2

So, we'll need new members from SSW, CAS #3, OCB, and CAS #2 for 2018-19.

3. Final year as Director

I see my job as helping Eric transition into the position as Director and trying to accomplish some of things he and I have discussed during the summer and throughout the fall.

4. Update on the Program—Student numbers, Sections, Seminars, and Budget matters

Student numbers (213 as of Oct. 1, 2017), Honors Sections (10 this Fall, including 2 Common Sections of Honors THEO 101, plus 2 Honors Chemistry labs), Seminars (3 were offered this past summer—including 2 one-Professor Seminars; 4 this Fall (2017)—including 2 one-Professor Seminars; 5 in J-Term 2018—including 4 one-Professor Seminars; 6 traditional 2-Professor Seminars in Spring 2018, and Budget matters (roughly—\$128K total; 102K\$ faculty salaries for Seminars and benefits; \$16.3K travel/food/entertainment combined; 5K\$ office supplies, water, duplicating costs, etc.)

5. EFF Proposal and the Honors Program

Eric and I have talked about this. We'll have to wait and see what shakes out from the curriculum review process and then talk about how the Honors Program and its Sections and Seminars can be fit into the new curriculum.

6. Specific goals for this year:

- a. On-Line application process—Eric is working on re-formatting the application essay directions and the Scholars' website as a whole. He showed us the changes. I will set-up a meeting with Lief Johnson for our new Faculty Board members: Sarah and Teresa.
- b. LLC Matter—We will coordinate with Admissions Office and Residence Life. There is a question about whether we should make the LLC required for all incoming Scholars. Right now we are asking them to opt out by contacting the Director.
- c. Invitation number thresholds for under-represented students—No current plans with respect to this topic. Eric wants to continue the calling practice to see if our numbers improve as they did last year.
- d. Automatic acceptances—Bryan Gates will let us know what the exact numbers were for this year.
- e. Honors Seminar Book Scholarships—I'm working with Wendy Wyatt on getting Honors Seminar Book Scholarships—so the Seminars would be totally free. No money was available for this year. We had asked for \$15,000 over three years.
- f. Continuing First Year Experience—We plan to have Honors Sections of PHIL 115 next Fall and Honors Sections of THEO 101 in the Spring of 2019.
- g. GPA requirement—Plan is to tie it to top 5% of the major—the Faculty Board unanimously supports this change. Erica is working with Sushant Khullar to determine what the top 5% of each major looks like and the impact of this change on Scholar membership.
- h. Fourth Seminar requirement? Related to discussion about a 1-credit Freshman seminar and a 1-credit capstone presentation like current Summa Exam. (see below, item m) We need to talk about this going forward.
- i. National Conference in ATL 11-8 to 11-12-2017—Future locations: 53rd, 2018 November 7-11; Boston, Massachusetts; 54th, 2019 November 6-10; New Orleans, Louisiana; 55th 2020 November 4-8; Dallas, Texas; 56th 2021 October 27-31; Orlando, Florida.
- j. Symposium and/or Forum—topics? None yet.

k. Program Perks—We have to keep pushing for the "perks" of being in the Program. i.e., priority registration, scholarship money, housing options, etc. Student Board leaders should plan to meet with Drs. Rob Riley and Wendy Wyatt to keep the ball rolling.

l. Check-out the Scholars' web site—and its changes!

m. Peter Distelzweig's Seminar proposal—have morphed into an LLC Program on the nature of the University and its various disciplines, majors, and administrative units. There will be Fall and Spring discussions lead by faculty teams of two to introduce their disciplines, and Rob Riley will be talking about the various administrative structures of the university.

7. Application Essay Review teams:

November—James Heyman & Teresa Collett

December—Jim Shovein & Roxanne Prichard

January—Peter Distelzweig & Frank Haug

February—Sarah Heimovics & Jan Frank

March—Ryan Bremner & Cathy Craft-Fairchild and all hands on deck!

8. Student Board Meetings (in 211 MHC—from 12-1 pm)—10-24; 11-7; 11-28; 12-12—All Faculty Board members are invited to attend!

9. Calendar for upcoming meetings—W at 12:15 works for almost everyone—Erica will seek November and December meeting dates via your Outlook calendars

10. Other? Nothing at this time