

GRINNELL COLLEGE
Meeting of the Faculty
August 27, 2008

President Osgood called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. in ARH 302.

Approval of Minutes – Russell K. Osgood, President of the College

Minutes from the meeting on May 5, 2008, were approved as submitted.

Introduction of New Faculty Members – Paula Smith, Vice-President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the College

Dean Smith introduced 11 new tenure-track faculty members, including one promoted from a term position, 20 new one- and two-year term faculty, and three new faculty members in renewable non-tenure track appointments.

Greg Wallace, Director of Athletics, introduced new Wellness Coordinator, Jennifer Jacobson '95.

Rosenfield Program in Public Affairs, International Relations, and Human Rights – Sarah Purcell, Director

Purcell gave an overview of this year's program. On Thursday, September 4, the Program is co-sponsoring a Common Ground luncheon with the theme "Human Rights and Human Dignity."

National security experts will visit in September and October as part of the National Security Network lecture series. On September 8, Robert Scher will present "China on the Rise—What's Next?" There will also be talks on Afghanistan and "Transnational Challenges to Security."

The symposium, "Trends in Islam," is scheduled September 15-18. Purcell provided a schedule with other scheduled symposia and encouraged faculty to send their students.

Senator Bob Dole will speak in Herrick Chapel at 11 AM on Thursday, November 13. This event is being sponsored in cooperation with the Community Education Council and a series of events commemorating World War II veterans.

Members of the Rosenfield Advisory Committee are Yvette Aparicio, Keith Brouhle, Eric Carter, Raquel Greene, Elaine Marzluff, and Sarah Purcell.

Center for International Studies – David Harrison, Director

Harrison reviewed the principle goals of the Center. The International Studies interest group meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, September 3, at noon in ARH 302.

Harrison introduced Marta de Menezes, Visiting International Fellow, who is teaching a short-course in art called "Biology as a New Art Medium"; Ms. Cai Dandan, Visiting Research Scholar from Nanjing University, hosted by Michael Cavanagh of the English Department; Ms. Zhang Yiyun, returning Visiting Instructor in Chinese, from Nanjing University; and Ms. Chang Jinwha, returning Visiting Instructor in Japanese, from Waseda University in Tokyo.

Center for the Humanities – Dan Reynolds, Director

The theme this year is "Visual Culture." Reynolds introduced Jeanette Roan, Visiting Scholar and Lecturer in the Humanities, who is the guest of the Center for this school year. The Center is not having a weekly faculty seminar this year but will instead host various faculty workshops and reading groups. The Center will hold its annual symposium in April.

Other activities include a plan for works-in-progress lunches and a film discussion series organized in cooperation with SGA. There are funds available through the Center to invite speakers to classes.

The Center for the Humanities interest group meeting will be announced. Reynolds also encouraged those interested in next year's topic, "Space and Place," to attend.

Center for Prairie Studies – Jon Andelson, Director

Andelson explained the objectives of the Center for Prairie Studies and announced upcoming events. Members of the Prairie Studies Advisory Board are Shannon Hinsaleasure, Leslie Delmenico, and Kara Lycke along with students, staff, and community members.

The Center for Prairie Studies and the Biology Department will host a celebration of the 40th anniversary of CERA on September 20. On October 1, the Center will host a gallery talk on the Emily Grimes photo exhibit "A Constructed Balance" currently on display in Burling Library.

The College will be a satellite site for the annual Bioneers Conference from October 31 to November 2. The Center is holding a symposium in February titled "Disconnecting from Nature: Costs and Solutions."

Remarks – President Osgood

President Osgood announced the following:

- Mark Montgomery has been appointed Acting Director of the Wilson Program.
- The Deans' office is temporarily moving to 1102 Broad Street while renovations are made to Nollen House. The President said he intends to remain in Nollen House unless conditions force him to leave.
- A task force has been appointed to look at internationalism and prepare related budget recommendations.
- Representatives of the media relations firm CooperKatz & Company, co-founded by Andy Cooper '70, will be on campus this semester to address the need for better promotion of the College, a part of the College's Strategic Plan.
- Events surrounding the dedication of the Noyce Science Center are scheduled for October 3-5. The Board of Trustees will also meet on campus that weekend.
- The College's endowment is down but this should not cause significant impact to the budget process.
- Developers of the 1999 Campus Plan, Shepley Bulfinch Richardson and Abbot, will be on campus in early October to update our Campus Master Plan. They will look in particular at space needs for classrooms and offices for Humanities and Social Studies faculty, and at a possible new library or an addition to the library. Plans for a new preschool remain to be completed under the original Campus Plan.
- President Osgood will present a lecture on Jesse Macy, class of 1870, in this year's opening Scholars' Convocation on Thursday, September 4, at 11 AM in JRC 101.

Remarks – Paula Smith

Smith reported on the success of the new registration process for incoming students and thanked Cheryl Chase, Karla Mae Elling, Vicki Rutherford, Mary Wells, Marna Montgomery, Stephanie Puls, and Terri Phipps for their efforts in this process. The faculty applauded the Office of the Registrar for developing this new registration procedure.

Marci Sortor and Amy Kalkbrenner are arranging a pilot program with the larger childcare providers in Grinnell to extend operating hours to accommodate faculty held late by faculty meetings.

133 sophomores are registered to attend the Second Year Retreat on September 5-7. This number is more than double last year's attendance. More faculty volunteers are needed.

The accreditation team representing the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association will be on campus September 15-17. The reviewers will hold an open forum for faculty at 3:15 PM on Tuesday, September 16, in ARH 302. The report is available in support staff offices, on reserve in Burling Library, and on-line at <http://web.grinnell.edu/hlc/>.

A copy of the Faculty Handbook has been distributed to new faculty; it is also available on-line.

Remarks – Mark Schneider, Chair of the Faculty

Schneider announced Family Weekend is September 19-21. He encouraged faculty to attend coffee hours and poster sessions on September 20.

Schneider commended Eliza Willis for her leadership. Willis's annual Report of the Chair of the Faculty for 2007-08 is available on the Dean's webpage.

Schneider shared some aspirations for his elected term:

- To encourage faculty to talk substantively about the future of the College. (Schneider created a blog at <http://grinfac.blogspot.com/> to aid in this discussion.)
- To “preserve Grinnell College as an excellent, selective, small, residential liberal arts college in Iowa.”
- To increase faculty resources by improving “mutual respect, appreciation for hard work, supportive mentoring, and review and merit processes that make us proud of ourselves and inspire us to achieve even more.”

Announcements and New Business

Sarah Purcell announced the campaign to fund a local history collection of books for the new public library. The collection will honor the late Alan Jones '50, Professor of History and American Studies, and his wife, Jean Lewis Jones '51. Interested donors should contact Purcell or George Drake.

Tom Moore announced a volunteer opportunity with Kids Against Hunger on September 28 at St. Mary's Catholic Church. Those interested in forming a faculty team should contact Moore.

New faculty members were reminded to register to vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:38 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Winburn

Secretary to the Faculty