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Campus News May 10, 2002

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Dear Colleague:

As you know, Ms. Susan Rohanna is leaving the University to become the Director of Human Resources at University of the Sciences.

Please join us in thanking Susan for her outstanding 16 years of service with the University and in wishing her well in her new position with the University of the Sciences. We will hold a farewell reception in the Lawrence Conference Room between 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. on Friday, May 31, 2002. We depend on you to serve the memories, congratulations, and best wishes.

Sincerely,

David C. Fleming
Vice President for Business Affairs
Please make a note...

Please be advised that the Faculty Dining Room will be closed on Tuesday, May 14, 2002 during the University Picnic. Intermissions and The Union Market will be open for your convenience.

Thank you,

Daniel Scott Tajirian
Assistant Director of Food Service
1900 West Olney Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19141-1199
tajirian@lasalle.edu
The meeting was called to order at 3:40 pm and the minutes of the March 14 meeting were approved as amended.

The Senate President read a letter from Br. President Michael McGinniss responding to the Senate’s motion about the salary increase for 2002-03. A motion to include the text of this letter in these minutes was approved (13-0-0); the text of the letter appears below:

Dear Marc:

I am writing in response to Jeannie Welsh’s letter of 18 February transmitting the Faculty Senate’s resolution stating concerns about the recent history and impact of compensation increases and concluding with a request to the administration for a plan and schedule for closing the salary gap (understood as the percentage increase, measured against our benchmark group). Thank you for sending the resolution prior to the approval and publication of the minutes.

As you know from our conversation of February 28th, I do not have specifics to propose at this time. You also know that I’m hesitant to further try folks’ patience by promising too much in a plan that is not linked with the University’s capacity to generate revenue. The necessity of that linkage is either not articulated clearly enough or not sufficiently understood in the memo on “Agreed Practices.” I can and do offer my commitment, and that of the administration, to work with the Senate, presumably through the Financial Affairs Planning Committee, to develop a plan that aims at closing the salary gap over a realistic period of time—in light of the University’s likely revenue-generating capacities—and begins to deal with some of the issues affecting our attractiveness to potential new (and continuing) faculty.

In light of the content of the Senate’s resolution, I will not conclude by appealing for continued patience or by recounting the environmental factors and circumstances that recently have impacted our net revenues. I will say that to develop and execute a plan will require both the Senate’s collaboration in planning and its leadership, among the entire faculty, to realize it. With the University in the process of developing a renewed Strategic Plan, the time is
right for this financial planning. I trust that I can count on the Senate, as always, for its collaboration and leadership.

Sincerely,

Michael J. McGinniss, FSC
President

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The Senate President reported on his meeting with the Provost after the March Senate meeting (which was a hearing on accelerated programs). He stated that the Provost has decided to set up an ad hoc committee to look at accelerated programs. This committee will include the three academic deans, the director of continuing studies, the five chairs of Arts and Sciences departments who were initially asked to provide accelerated courses (ENG, PHL, REL, HIS, ART), and the director of the Organizational Dynamics program. The Senate President noted that he had expressed his dissatisfaction with the composition of this committee (because it didn’t include more faculty, especially from the schools of Nursing and Business) and that the Provost had responded that the issue of composition could be taken up at the first meeting of the committee. The Senate President further reported that the scope of the committee’s mission was to look at finding a uniform structure for the accelerated programs (not necessarily the structure currently in use) and to review the institutional housing of these programs.

The Senate President then opened the floor for comments from Senators related to this issue. These comments can be summarized as follows:

A Senator remarked that faculty aren’t necessarily opposed to these programs but that they need to see more data and analysis showing why there is a need (market) for these programs. It was suggested that someone might want to make this request for data at the ad hoc committee meetings.

A Senator noted that the Academic Affairs Committee is supposed to review programs in terms of market analysis and that these accelerated programs haven’t gone before that committee (except for the program in Nursing). This Senator also reiterated that we heard at the March Senate meeting that faculty don’t want a cookie cutter approach taken to designing these courses, raising questions about the ad hoc committee’s charge to seek uniformity in the design of the programs.

A Senator remarked that she could understand not wanting the ad hoc committee to get too large but thought there should be a faculty representative (not just deans) from Nursing and SBA.

A Senator asked whether the issue of compensation for teaching accelerated courses would be on the agenda for the ad hoc committee.

A Senator raised concerns about whether these programs have followed the appropriate channels, especially in terms of whether they had been reviewed by the Academic Affairs
Committee. This concern was raised especially in relation to a program for the MA in Communication which is being offered in Prague. There followed discussion of the specifics of that program, its review and administration.

There was extensive discussion about where and how the University should best approach the issue of accelerated courses and whether the ad hoc committee currently established is the best body to address faculty question about these programs. It was suggested by several Senators that Senate President should bring the concerns raised during the current meeting and the March meeting before the ad hoc committee (he will be serving on the committee in his capacity as chair of the Philosophy Department).

During continued discussion of the issue, Senators who had been part of the Arts and Sciences curriculum committee meetings regarding accelerated courses shared information and insights gathered from those meetings. This led to continued discussion about procedure and to questions about why the Academic Affairs committee was not more clearly involved in this process. (For example, why is the structure of the accelerated programs being assigned to an ad hoc committee rather than to a subcommittee of Academic Affairs?) It was suggested that those Senators who sit on the Academic Affairs committee raise these questions at their next meeting and also that the Provost might be invited to address the Senate regarding this issue.

Additional questions were raised regarding the actual financial contribution of Continuing Studies (CS) programs. The $5 million figure presented to the Senate appears to have been the projected gross revenue for next year, rather than the current net revenue contributed by CS, adjusting for program expenditures. Moreover, because many day students (who presumably would not be admitted to accelerated courses) enroll in CS courses, there was a question as to whether the revenue attributed to CS had accounted for day enrollment.

The final agenda item addressed by the Senate concerned the creation of six non-tenure track positions for faculty members to teach doubles and FYO courses. (University policy regarding non-tenure track positions stipulates that the Senate be consulted when new non-tenure track positions are created.) Margot Soven explained that having continuing, full-time faculty members dedicated to the core curriculum would significantly improve planning, coordination, stability, and training for the doubles and FYO courses. She noted that the chairs of the departments who would make these new appointments were uniformly supportive of creating these positions and that many other universities staffed similar courses with non-tenure track faculty members.

Discussion addressed whether the processes that were followed and rationales that were given for the creation of these positions were consistent with our policy on non-tenure track positions. Some senators expressed strong reservations about the growing reliance on non-tenure track, rather than tenure track, positions; others defended the appropriateness and need for the particular positions under discussion. A motion to support the creation of the six non-tenure track positions was approved (5-4-3).

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30.
Submitted by Sabrina DeTurk and Lynn Miller
DIPLOMAT-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM

FALL LECTURE SERIES

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2002
1:00 PM DUNLEAVY ROOM

PROFESSOR BARBARA STOWASSER
DIRECTOR
THE CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ARAB STUDIES,
GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
WILL DELIVER A LECTURE ON
"WOMEN AND ISLAM"
(CO-SPONSORED WITH THE WOMEN'S STUDIES PROGRAM)

Barbara Stowasser (Ph.D., Islamic Studies and Semitic Languages, Universitat Munster) is Professor of Arabic in the Department of Arabic. Since 1993, she has served as Director of the Center for Contemporary Arab Studies. She served as the 34th president of the Middle East Studies Association (1998-99). Her publications include a book-length study on Women in the Qur’an: Traditions and Interpretation (Oxford University Press, 1994), an edited volume entitled The Islamic Impulse (CCAS, 1987), articles published in American, German, Arabic, and Turkish journals and periodicals, and book chapters in collected volumes. CCAS recently published Dr. Stowasser's A Time to Reap: Thoughts on Calendars and Millennialism, an exploration of how Islam, Christianity, and Judaism have historically treated periods of apocalyptic imminence.

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AND ENCOURAGE YOUR STUDENTS TO ATTEND. THANK YOU.
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POSITION AVAILABLE

Library Technician – Circulation Department

The Circulation Department of the Connelly Library has a full-time Library Technician position available. This position provides circulation and reserve services to Library users. Additional duties involve maintenance of the book collection.

Normal hours are Saturday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM, Sunday Noon – 8:00 PM and Monday – Wednesday 4:00 PM – midnight. Days and hours vary during semester breaks, holidays, exams, and summers sessions.

This position requires good interpersonal skills, maturity, tact, basic computer skills, and the ability to work unsupervised. Library experience helpful, but not required. Full benefits package including tuition remission.

La Salle University is a private Roman Catholic University dedicated to the traditions of the De La Salle Christian Brothers.

Interested candidates should submit a letter of application, resume, and names and telephone numbers of three business references to:

Christopher Kibler
Head of Access Services
Connelly Library
La Salle University
1900 West Olney Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19141

The deadline for submitting applications is May 17, 2002.

AA/EOE
GROUNDKEEPER

Physical Facilities has an opening for a Groundskeeper I. Major responsibilities are mowing grass with push-type mowers, litter and leaf pickup, planting bed maintenance, weed control, snow removal, trash pickup, freight delivery and landscaping on an 85 acre urban campus.

Must have a valid driver’s license. Full benefits package including tuition remission. La Salle University is a Roman Catholic institution of higher education in the traditions of the De La Salle Christian Brothers. AA/EOE

Apply to: Superintendent of Grounds
La Salle University
1900 W. Olney Avenue, Box 823
Philadelphia, PA 19141

CN 05/10/02
Position Announcement

Information Systems Analyst for Business Affairs

La Salle University is seeking an Information Systems Analyst for Business Affairs. This position is responsible for the development, implementation and support of computerized information systems that support the Business Affairs Area operations including human resources, payroll and accounting systems. S/he works effectively with key administrators and end users and serves as the Business Affairs Area liaison with Information Technology.

The successful candidate will have a BS, excellent interpersonal, written, and oral communication skills. Experience with databases, end user reporting tools and PC software is important and experience with SQL, Unix and Oracle is desirable. Experience with accounting, payroll, and financial systems software is preferable. Experience with Microsoft Access is essential. The salary for this position is competitive and complimented by a highly attractive benefits package that includes tuition remission. La Salle University is a Roman Catholic university in the tradition of the De La Salle Christian Brothers and welcomes applicants from all backgrounds who can contribute to our unique educational mission. For a complete mission statement, please visit our website at www.lasalle.edu. Applications for this position will be considered until a qualified candidate is found. For full consideration, please send a letter of application and resume, including employment references to: Director of Human Resources, Box 806, La Salle University, 1900 West Olney Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa. 19141

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