

**College of Arts and Sciences
Meeting of the All-College Assembly
October 19, 2010 3:30 PM
Oakland Center, Gold Room A**

Members present: *Eis, Berven, D., Berven, K., Cheng, Connery, Dvir, Elder, Estes, Giberson, Graves, Grossman, Hawkins, Jumel, LaRock, Lewis, Meehan, Nugent, Ogunyemi, Sanders, Sheridan, Stamps, Whitehead*

Members absent: *Howell, Kerrigan, Nielsen, Schweitzer, Seymour, Trumbore, Wood, Williams*

Ex-officio present: *Moore, Stewart, Sudol*

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Dean Sudol.

2. Approval of the Minutes, Meeting of September 21, 2010

The minutes of the meeting of September 21, 2010 were approved (motion by Lewis, second by K. Berven).

3. Presentation of the Marian P. Wilson Award, Ken Elder, presenter

Dean Sudol introduced Ken Elder to make the presentation of the Marian P. Wilson award to David Garfinkle for his book “Three Steps to the Universe” (University of Chicago Press, 2008). Mr. Elder thanked Mr. Garfinkle in particular for writing a book that makes physics understandable to the general public.

4. State of the College Address, Ron Sudol

Dean Sudol made his annual State of the College address, of which the following are the highlights:

- ***Fall enrollment growth:*** Fall enrollment growth in the CAS increased by 10.1% from last year—a phenomenal rate of growth compared to the university as a whole, which is at 0.7%. New students are attracted and students who are already here are staying. Also, student credit hours in the CAS are up 3.1% as compared with the university overall, which is at a 2.1% increase over last year.
- ***New programs:*** There are several new programs in the CAS, including the following: (1) the new exploratory requirement which is replacing the distribution requirement, (2) the BALS program which it is hoped will be an attraction to the 500 students in the ‘undecided’ category, (3) the M.A. in Communication, and (4) the B.S. in Actuarial Science.

- ***Funded research:*** A record \$5,700,000 has been brought in by researchers in the CAS.
- ***Space:*** The CAS is very tight for space, particularly in the Performing Arts, Fine Arts and Applied Social Sciences. Mr. Sudol does not have control over space, but it is the most urgently needed resource in the CAS. He would like to get CAS faculty members together to make a space plan. There is not enough room to accommodate the activities of the Performing Arts. For example, the theatre department will be putting on a musical this year using the stage in Eisenhower High School.
- ***Number of total credit hours by School 2006-2009:*** In terms of the number of total credit hours, the CAS is always going up in comparison with the other schools. Mr. Sudol observed that this could mean that current economic conditions are not harming the CAS. He noted that a good liberal arts education is still valued.
- ***Percent change in undergraduate enrollment:*** In terms of head count by major, enrollments are up, but particularly in Studio Art, Biology and Social Work, where they are way up over other programs.
- ***Number of full-time faculty in the CAS:*** The number of full-time faculty in the CAS has gone up from 263 in 2009 to 270 in 2010. So the number of faculty is almost keeping up with student enrollments. In 2009, there were 21 new full-time faculty members (19 tenure track and 2 visitors). In 2010, there are 16 new full-time faculty members so far (13 tenure track and 3 visitors), with a possibility for more in the next round.
- ***Pryale Hall:*** Mr. Sudol does not know how long Pryale Hall can continue to house the Psychology Department because Pryale Hall is officially a ‘dead’ building. O’Dowd will have some space vacated when the SON moves out. In terms of off-campus space, we have been invited to take over the Pine Lake Elementary School, but it would require considerable renovation. At Riverview just across from Belle Isle, a nursing program is fully operational in that location. There may be other classes offered in that location as well, such as Spanish, sociology, social work and others. The building has been leased for 5 years and there is a grant to cover the rent. Mr. Sudol pointed out that it is good for Oakland University to have a presence in Detroit. In Mount Clemens, some long-term residents have given an office building. Mr. Sudol was pleasantly surprised at the liveliness of the town when he toured it recently. The building there is being renovated and will have offices as well as classrooms, and there will be efforts made to put more populated classes out there.
- ***Student success stories:*** There have been some notable student success stories, such as Adam Hobart, history student, whose submission won an award as the second best history paper in Phi Alpha Theta's national Best Paper competition.

Also, a group of archeology students went to Israel for the second year in a row. Their project is taking place on a 5000 year old site. The work is being done under the auspices of Hebrew University. Donors gave as much as \$25,000 to help fund the trip, which had 14 participants. As another example of student success, the musical 'Company' has just finished a highly successful run. In the sciences, students have made impressive presentations this year.

- **Faculty achievements:** Mr. Sudol said that it is difficult to explain academic achievement to the general public. This is a problem that they addressed at the Chairs Retreat in August. He thinks that a narrative format is needed to showcase accomplishments. The CAS newsletter is going to take a new form. There will be two printed and two online versions. The next issue will be focused on the accomplishments of the Physics Department, which has brought in 25% of research money to the university.
- **Alumni:** Three alumni will be getting an award at the OU Alumni Banquet which will be held soon. Mr. Sudol cited Bob Gebbie, a CAS alumnus with a record of extraordinary lifetime achievements, who will be honored this year.
- **Symphony orchestra:** Mr. Sudol made the first public announcement that Oakland University now has its own symphony orchestra in the CAS. The symphony orchestra is a partnership with the DSO applied music program.
- **Degree in Three:** Students are able to get a degree in three years, and there are now 19 degree programs in the CAS for which this is possible because of departmental scheduling, summer school and advanced placements.
- **Meadowbrook Writing Project:** This is the 10th anniversary of the Meadowbrook Writing Project.
- **Other CAS news:** 1) Cindy Sifonis is the new director of the BALS program. 2) International Studies has new developments. 3) The next Capital Campaign will be very big. It could have a thematic approach this time. 4) The art collection of the Handelman family has been donated to the CAS.

Following his address, Mr. Sudol asked if there were any questions. Mr. Stamps wondered if it would be possible to allow overload classes at Mount Clemens for which the faculty salary would come from tuition. This would be an incentive to teach there and could appeal to some faculty members. Mr. Sudol said that he thinks this is a good idea. Mr. Dvir suggested there should be more incentives to raise enrollments on campus, not just off campus. Mr. Sudol agreed, but he said that there are many students who live out in the Mount Clemens area. The donors have the idea of a branch of the campus opening up in their town at some point in the future. Mr. Stamps asked if senior citizens get to take courses for free, and if this has an effect on the amount of money brought in. Mr. Sudol said "yes." Mr. Grossman asked for an update on the construction taking place on

campus, and wondered what exactly they were doing. Mr. Sudol replied that there are major renovations being made to the infrastructure.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Dikka Berven