

**FIVE COLLEGES
LEARNING IN RETIREMENT
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 16, 2010**

The regular monthly meeting of the 5CLIR Council was held on Thursday, September 16, 2010 at the offices of the Five Colleges, Incorporated on Spring Street in Amherst, MA.

Present: Larry Ambs, John Armstrong, Lise Armstrong, Marybeth Bridegam, Laura Cranshaw, Peter Ferber, Mary Franks, Arnold Friedman, Chuck Gillies, Sheila Klem, Joan Laird, Dean Poli, Janet Price, Jim Scott, Bev von Kries, Bill Williams, Michael Wolff, Sara Wright, and Joan Wofford.

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of July 15, 2010 were approved as written.

Remarks by the President: At Larry's request, the Council members and guest introduced themselves and told briefly of their LIR involvement, and – What I Did Last Summer!

Report of the Vice President: Joan reiterated her desire to continue to meet regularly with the Committee chairs for an hour before each Council Meeting.

Finance Committee Report: Bill Williams commented on the reports distributed to the Council members. Both auction income and the cost of the new computer were unbudgeted, and roughly cancelled each other out. Anticipated new expenses include increased rental payments for seminar space. Reserves are in good shape, and contribute to the strength of the balance sheet.

Curriculum Committee Report: Jim announced a change of venue and time for the Fall Moderators' Meeting. It is scheduled for October 28, from 1-3pm at the Amherst Women's Club. Mary said that Amherst College cannot accommodate our parking in their lot before 2pm. Seminars on the Amherst campus will be from 2-4pm only. Jim said that all 25 fall seminars are a go. Six still have openings, some of which will be filled before opening day. There are 4 definite seminar proposals in for next spring, and 6 more are probable.

Public Relations Report: The committee will meet on September 22.

Winter/Summer: Marybeth reported that all programs have been well attended.

Motion: It was moved that Council approve the new members of the Winter/Summer Committee. The motion was seconded and passed.

Membership Committee Report: Sheila reported that several new members attended the picnic and are looking forward to their seminars. There are 42 new members. Half of them are Trial Members. Total membership is now about 280. Arnold suggested that the

committee contact dropouts and try to maintain them at least as Associate Members. Sheila is looking for brunch hosts for about 12 people, to be scheduled prior to the Preview.

Special Programs Report: About 75 people attended the picnic at the Gaustads.

Motion: Lise Armstrong moved that a gift certificate be given to the Gaustads in appreciation for their hosting the picnic. The motion was seconded and passed.

The picnic costs LIR about \$500. It is unclear whether responsibility for the picnic falls under Summer/Winter or Special Programs. Larry will take this to the Executive Committee and come back with a motion.

Motion: It was moved that the Council approve the new members of the Special Programs Committee. The motion was seconded and approved.

Development Committee Report: John recapped the report sent to Council members. Essentially with growth in membership and programs, LIR needs growth in income. He suggested that there be a fall "Great Decisions" style program on domestic issues. Other options include encouraging memorial gifts, looking into planned giving, and the possibility of another auction and/or the sale of premiums, such as mugs and shirts.

Motion: It was moved to support the concept of raising money for current use and expanding programs. The motion was seconded and approved.

The committee was requested to continue their work and return to Council with specific recommendations for development activities.

Old Business: a. Progress has been made in updating the Operations Manual, though the job is huge. Digitizing has helped. There are still four years of minutes to be digitized. b. The annual Report will be ready next month. c. Jim said that the Curriculum Committee considered the Moderators' Meeting a possible forum for discussion of diversity, not as a focus, but appropriate to address the issue if it arose during discussion. Joan Laird suggested that a Committee review what has been done. She also suggested that LIR attend faculty retirements on the Five College campuses to recruit their diverse populations. The stickiest problem seems to be a perceived lack of political diversity in the LIR membership.

New Business: a. Chuck presented his proposal for an LIR symposium on some aspect of the Civil War. The year 2011 marks the start of the four year sesquicentennial of the Civil War. He suggested addressing its consequences, short and long term, on the three populations affected – African Americans, southern whites and northern whites. He said the project would require \$1000 in seed money.

Motion: It was moved that Council will support the proposal as attached to the minutes. The motion was seconded and approved.

Motion: It was moved that in order to support this proposal, Council approve the expenditure of up to \$1000.00 taken from the Special Events Fund.

5CLIR scheduling. Larry handed out a current scheduling calendar and one containing the suggested revisions, notable that all AM seminars run from 9:30-11:30, and all afternoon seminars from 2-4. This leaves a two and a half hour, instead of a one and a half hour interval between seminars, opening up the possibility of scheduling special programs in that time slot. After a few brief comments, the committee agreed that more discussion was required. c. The Five Colleges Incorporated strategic plan has been completed. Larry will meet with the Strategic Plan Committee next week, and will send a copy of this plan to all council members. d. Larry will attend the AROHE (Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education).

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 pm.

Laura E. Cranshaw, Secretary protem