Revisions/corrections to the
March 19, 2007, LU Faculty meeting minutes

Requested by Associate Provost and Professor Carl Moses to item 3, Unfinished Business

Original version:
Prof. Chuck Smith, a faculty representative on the Middle States Accreditation committee, reported on the current progress. This accreditation review process occurs approximately every 10 years, with our Visiting Committee arriving on campus late next spring (2008). Associate Provost Carl Moses has made presentations to all Lehigh college faculty meetings. Lehigh is now working on Part I of a self-study of Lehigh’s compliance with the Association’s 14 standards, of which 8 are primary and 6 are secondary. At the same time, there are committees working on Part II, which are Lehigh-selected topics of 3 topics, the First-Year Experience, Advancement of Student Learning, Technology to Support Learning (“Information Literacy”).

A draft of Part I’s Compliance Report, especially on the 8 primary standards, will be available in early April for Faculty review and comment to any member of the committee, e.g., Carl or Chuck, or via the Lehigh Faculty Blackboard web site. The comment period will be for the two months of April and May, 2007, after which the Accreditation Committee will use faculty input to revise the report. When the Visiting Committee comes to campus late next spring, they will talk with faculty members to see if they are familiar and in agreement with the report. They will be checking to confirm that the University is doing what has been reported and the level of faculty involvement and commitment.

Revised version (corrections in italics and red font)

Prof. Chuck Smith, a faculty representative on the Middle States Accreditation committee, reported on the current progress. This accreditation review process occurs approximately every 10 years, with our Visiting Committee arriving on campus late next spring (2008). Associate Provost Carl Moses has made presentations to all Lehigh college faculty meetings. Lehigh is now working on Part I of a self-study of Lehigh’s compliance with the Association’s 14 standards, all of which are of equal weight, but 8 are being reviewed in a portion of the self-study we call the “Compliance Report” – they do not relate to the selected topics. The other 6 will be reviewed in the “Selected Topics” portion of the self-study. At the same time, there are committees working on Part II, which are 3 Lehigh-selected topics: the First-Year Experience, Advancement of Student Learning, Technology to Support Learning (“Information Literacy”).

A draft of the Compliance Report will be available in early April for Faculty review and comment to any member of the committee, e.g., Carl or Chuck, or via the Lehigh Faculty Blackboard web site. The comment period will be for the month of April, 2007, after which the Accreditation Committee will use faculty input to revise the report. When the evaluation team comes to campus late next spring, they will meet with members of the campus community, including faculty, to see if they are familiar with the selected topics report. The team will be checking to confirm that the University is performing as represented in the report and to confirm that faculty are effectively and appropriately engaged.