

Institute for Continued Learning
Advisory Board Meeting

Monday, January 8, 2007

Vice President David Sullivan called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM in room 317.

Present: David Sullivan, Betty Morley, Tom Dooley, Sue Harty, Terri Collins, Peter Marron, Ken Bobbe, John Wiese, Margo Temple, Marilyn Lind, Marge Olszewski, Dorothy Murphy, Mike Thompson, Don Carlson, Lois Nissen, Cathy Jensen and Mary Fioretti.

Not present: Bob Allen, Joe Maladra, Mary Crisanti, Karl Gabby,

Minutes It was moved by Mike Thompson and seconded by Marge Olszewski to approve minutes of the December meeting. Board voted to approve.

Master ICL Calendar Mary Fioretti distributed copies of the ICL Master Calendar from December 29, 2006 through December 20, 2007. Calendar will be updated as information is given to Mary. Calendar will be posted on the web and will be publicized through the usual ICL means of communication. Mary called attention to the six general mailing dates. ICLers wanting to include documents in a general mailing need to talk to Mary and have enough copies available.

Committee Reports

Field Trips Marilyn Lind reported that the February trip to the Chicago Historical Society is filled, with 47 people on the bus. The April trip to see the mystery play at the downtown RU site is being planned and will be publicized when details are finalized.

Service Next mailing January 25.

Member Services Peter Marron reported that this committee will have a table at all lectures to welcome attendees, verify membership, collect \$5.00 from guests and distribute information. Focus Groups are scheduled for April 12 and 13.

Program Development Ken Bobbe distributed the list of 23 Spring Study Groups, March 19 – May 17. He announced Taste of ICL on March 7 and coordinators luncheon on March 16. Sue Harty summarized and sent fall study group evaluations to coordinators. There was discussion on the idea of having a gathering after the end of study groups to enable coordinators to share and evaluate experiences. The committee will discuss this idea.

Finance/ Wish List Don Carlson distributed a detailed report prior to the meeting. He reported that the current balance of around \$2000.00 is in line with last year and will increase as membership dues come in during February, March and April. He asked chairs to hold expenses for a while to allow funds to increase.

Coffee/ Lecture Series There was spirited discussion on the issue of ICL providing coffee, and possibly pastries and bottled water at the Winter Lecture Series. Because of this continued interest Dorothy Murphy researched the issue and presented a report prior to the meeting detailing proposals for coffee, water, pastries based on 170 people in attendance. The main points brought out, voiced strongly, and listed here in no particular order of importance were:

- The Lecture Series Committee does not favor coffee “and” at lectures.
- There is interest in using the wish list to “give back” to the members, and providing refreshments at the lectures could be a way of doing this.
- Last year after deciding against coffee at lectures only one person complained officially.
- Instead of having refreshments at all lectures, perhaps it could be offered as special lectures, such as the one featuring Dr. Middleton, RU President.
- The expenditure of funds for coffee “and” at lectures is not in the current budget. If the committee or board wants it, this provision should be indicated in the budget. The issue should be raised at budget time.

Motion: *Tom Dooley moved and Marge Olszewski seconded that the board approve the recommendations of the Lecture Series Committee that no coffee and refreshments be served at lectures in 2007.*

During discussion a point was made that the concept of giving back to members could take other forms, such as reducing membership dues, and also that expenditures such as this coffee issue should be raised at budget time.

In unanimous vote the board approved the motion.

The Winter Lecture Series is set to open on Wednesday, January 17 with Dr. Middleton presenting the first of nine lectures.

Summer Lectures and Annual Meeting Tom Dooley reported that his lecture series committee is pursuing speakers and topics for a summer series. There was discussion regarding dates. The idea originated to provide ICL programming during so called down time between regularly scheduled ICL activities. It was suggested that the committee try to plan something for Wednesday June 6. The board agreed that a lecture would not work at the Annual Meeting, which already

has many activities required. The summer lectures should be planned as separate events.

Marketing/ICL Regional Conference John Wiese presented reports on several topics. His report prior to the meeting touched on some.

1. “Round TUIT” marketing will be initiated during the Winter Lecture Series.
2. Taste of ICL is organized and set for March 7 with presentations being given by ICL members Sue Harty, Bob Masterson and Bob Allen prior to the planned lecture of the day. A flier was circulated.
3. Regional Lifelong Learning Conference. A paper was circulated showing a sample email to be sent to ICL members. So far there are five proposals for presentations with more expected. Soon there will be a need for volunteers.
4. Polo Shirts with ICL Logo. John sent around a paper on which board members could express color preferences. Shirts will be available for purchase by ICL members for around \$17.50 each. Some will be given as gifts to volunteers at the Lifelong Learning Conference in August.

In addition to these reports, John raised these questions for board consideration;

- John wants to conduct a membership survey in spring similar to one conducted several years ago. The goal is to compare the data from the new survey to that from the previous one. John will volunteer his time in organizing the survey, but noted there will be some cost for data entry, about \$250. Don Carlson suggested that John’s marketing committee budget could cover this expense. Thus no board vote was required and the survey will take place.
- John wants to pursue the question of credit card processing for ICL programs. Can we develop an easy way for ICL members to use credit cards to pay dues, fees for field trips? Can this be done through the RU system? The board agreed that John should pursue this idea.

Special Events Margo Temple reported her committee now on hiatus, but working with Cathy Jensen on Jane Austen Day and also planning for the Annual Meeting. The board indicated an interest in light, short entertainment at the Annual Meeting, rather than weighty topics.

Website Mike Thompson reported that the RU webmaster has left the job and a new person is not yet in place. He is working to establish the ICL calendar on the web as well as the registration system for study groups.

Humanities Seminar/ Lunch with Professors/ Jane Austen Cathy Jensen reported that her committee will meet in late January to plan the fall Humanities Seminar, carrying the cultural story forward to the next era. Jane Austen Day is set for June

21, with a presentation by Jeff Nigro, of the Art Institute, and 24 attendees already signed up.

Sharing our Talents Ken Gabby was not here but a detailed report on New Deal Day was submitted prior to the meeting.

Plato's Place Tom Dooley reported topics are set through October and that in this off season attendance is stable at 12 – 15, the regulars.

New Business

Minutes for the next meeting will be taken by Lois Nissan in the absence of Betty Morley

The next Advisory Board Meeting will be on February 12, Lincoln's Birthday.

Tom Dooley moved to adjourn at 2:20. David Sullivan declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Betty Morley, ICL Secretary