Faculty Meeting Minutes
October 17, 2014

I. **Call to Order:** Mark Sargent called the meeting to order at 3:35.

II. **Devotional:** Andrea Gurney gave a devotional reflecting on the quiet places in our lives where we go to quiet ourselves and to meet God. Jesus provides an example of going to a quiet place to rest and pray. The reflection ended with a challenge to take the time to stop, fill our cup, and pray.

III. **Introduction of New Faculty:** Enrico Manlapig introduced himself to Westmont. Born in Michigan, he calls Australia home. Enrico has a strong musical background having won competitions on recorder, piano, and clarinet. Since his parents would not support a conservatory school, Enrico studied mathematics in the economics department. With a Ph.D. from Columbia, Enrico has written papers in such diverse areas as speed dating and sorority rush.

IV. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of September 26, 2014 were approved by consent.

V. **Critical Thinking Discussion:** Mark Sargent framed the discussion which was led by Jim Taylor. Assessment cannot cover all aspects of Critical Thinking, but it can provide a prompt or occasion for discussion and planning.
   a. Team members: Taylor, Pointer, Wilson, VanderMey, Contakes, D’Amour.
   b. The team used the Critical Thinking Assessment Test, a 15 minute, short-answer test that uses real-world problem solving.
   c. The team scored tests of 72 students (including students in seminar courses from two majors from each division). The sample represents 20% of the graduating class and is representative of the graduating class in terms of GPA and other demographics.
   d. After being scored at Westmont, a sampling of the of the tests were scored by the national organization to check for accuracy
   e. Westmont students did better than the national average on each question except one, but when adjusted for SAT scores, Westmont students scored slightly worse than the national average.
   f. The Critical Thinking Team recommends that we select 3-4 critical thinking skills from the list, select courses to teach these skills, provide resources to those instructors, and do pre/post testing.
   g. CAT scores are available by division and by department. Details are available in the long version of the report at http://www.westmont.edu/_offices/institutional_portfolio/program_review/documents/CriticalThinkingAssessmentReport10-3-14.pdf.
   h. Following a time of small group discussion, the following questions/observations were reported to the whole group:
      i. Raw scores were quite different with CS
      ii. Methodology courses are quite different between the departments.
      iii. Do our students disproportionally come for law-abiding subcultures and so have not developed a habit of questioning authority?
VI. **Westmont Downtown Program:** Mark Sargent introduced the proposal and gave some of the history of the proposal. Internships will be an integral part of the program. Rachel Winslow has collaborated with Rick Ifland to develop the proposal.

a. Motivation/Design:
   i. Students want to integrate meaningful work and service with their careers rather than making service a separate part of their lives.
   ii. Requests for this type of experience have come from students across the disciplines. Consequently, this program is designed to be open to students across disciplines rather than being focused on E&B students.
   iii. This program allows us to be on the cutting edge of CCCU schools in developing innovative, cross-disciplinary, service-oriented programs.

b. Questions:
   i. Will this program absorb the slack in the CUP so that the development of other potential programs will be foreclosed? *No.* The CUP restricts the number of students who have campus obligations. *No students in the program would have campus obligations.*
   ii. Does offering three (vs Urban’s two) elective courses needlessly complicate the program as it gets off the ground? *We would cancel under-enrolled courses. The fact that students will not be constrained by the campus schedule will provide flexibility in course offerings and scheduling.*
   iii. Are there local Social entrepreneurs that could be involved? *Yes.* *Rick Ifland is an example.* We will reach out to others including alums. Eventually, we plan to have a board of advisors.
   iv. Location? *We are looking at options including sharing space with other institutions.*

c. **The Social Entrepreneurship Program was approved without dissent.**

VII. **The Provost:**

a. Tatiana Nazarenko: Starting this year, two committee members rather than one will review each annual report. We have a rubric with four categories and are shooting for the third level, Developed.

b. The Westmont in Jerusalem program has been cancelled due to safety considerations.

c. Our WASC liaison will be visiting campus on Nov. 11.

d. Senate has established a new proposal form that outlines the types of information that should accompany a proposal. The form also identifies the tracks that different types of proposals follow through the approval process.

e. Faculty highlights took the form of a slide show set to music.

VIII. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 5:00. Members of the faculty were encouraged to attend the Homecoming BBQ and visit with returning alums.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Rosentrater