ASSOCIATE AND ASSISTANT DEANS’ REPORTS

**Associate Dean for Research, Allen Renear** –

1) Research Services is available to help

Research Services would like to remind you that if you need help with any aspect of a project, large or small, funded or unfunded, please contact the Coordinator of Research Services, Janet Eke (jeke@illinois.edu), or the ADR, Allen Renear (renear@illinois.edu). If you are planning a grant proposal please let us know as soon as possible. For more information: http://www.lis.illinois.edu/research/services

2) Selected updates

* The Research Showcase takes place this Friday 8 April, 1:30pm-4:30pm. Presentations in room 126 are followed by a poster session and reception in 131 and the East Foyer. We encourage faculty to publicize the event in their classes. Program details are posted at http://www.lis.illinois.edu/research/showcase.

* A search committee has been formed to hire a Senior Research Programmer (to replace Amit Kumar); this position will be funded primarily from grant and contract sources. Contact Janet Eke if you would like to bring your anticipated research programming needs to the attention of this committee.

* We are also opening a research faculty position in the area of data curation, funded by the Data Conservancy. An official announcement of this position should take place within a week.

* The pilot Applied Projects mini poster session at the March Corporate Roundtable generated great interest, and was very successful. We expect to continue to assist Advancement to make this a recurring event. Many thanks to Cathy Blake for her presentation, which pulled in a near-record audience and was very well received.

* A reminder that the ADR will shortly begin conversations and soliciting faculty input to assess and revise the categories currently being used on the GSLIS web site to describe research areas.

**Associate Dean for Academic Programs, Linda Smith** –

Associate Dean for Academic Programs, Linda Smith -- All students have had the opportunity to select summer courses and fall LEEP courses through the course pre-selection forums set up in Moodle. Approvals for summer course enrollments have been completed and approvals for fall course enrollments will be done by April 10. Students will be able to officially enroll in summer and fall courses in April based on their time tickets. For those who did not complete course pre-selection, Meg Edwards will handle approvals for on-campus students to enroll in LEEP courses.

At the Annual Meeting of the Graduate Faculty held March 29, Dean Deba Dutta described the process being followed by the Graduate College for the Assessment of Doctoral Programs (http://www.grad.illinois.edu/DoctoralProgramAssessment). Three forms of data collection have been undertaken (http://www.grad.illinois.edu/DoctoralProgramAssessment/ProgramQuestions): 1) each program developed a response to a questionnaire; 2) data maintained by the Division of Management.
Information and the Graduate College were summarized; and 3) doctoral students had the opportunity to respond to a survey. As identified at the beginning of the process, "Through this assessment, we will better understand our strengths, codify and share best practices across programs, and identify areas for improvement." GSLIS Associate Professor Christine Jenkins is a member of the committee appointed to complete the assessment process (http://www.grad.illinois.edu/DoctoralProgramAssessment/Committee). The goal is to complete data collection and analysis by August.

In response to recommendations made as the result of the Stewarding Excellence @ Illinois review of the Graduate College (http://oc.illinois.edu/budget/Graduate_College_Next_Steps2.pdf), the Graduate College is developing strategies for streamlining the petition process. In particular they will be distinguishing requests for exceptions to certain rules from other types of requests requiring action by the Graduate College.

**Assistant Dean for Communications, Cindy Ashwill**
Cindy is recovering from surgery and working from home as much as possible for the next two or three weeks, returning to the office when she is able. She can be reached at cashwill@illinois.edu. Kim will be out of the office from April 6-13 for surgery, so please contact Cindy for communications matters requiring immediate attention. As usual, all website requests should be emailed to web@support.lis.illinois.edu.

GSLIS publications and communications planned for the remainder of this semester and their anticipated months of completion include:

- GSLIS Magazine—April
- New Graduate Email—May
- Alumni Newsletter—May
- eUpdate Vol. 10 No. 6—May
- Special Campaign Publication—June

The upcoming schedule for Library Trends includes:

- Spring/May 2011 (59.4)
  Involving Users in the Co-Construction of Digital Knowledge in Libraries, Archives, and Museums / Paul Marty, editor
- Summer/August 2011 (60.1)
  Library Design from Past to Present / Alistair Black and Nan Dahlkild, editors

**Assistant Dean for Infrastructure, Erik Hege**
Much of the past month has been spent catching up on tasks and completing projects mentioned at the last faculty meeting. One of note in particular is that the patio double glass doors now have a ‘panic bar’ lock instead of the magnetic lock that used to be on it. This means that you no longer need to press the hand-plate that was to the left of the door to exit after hours, and the door will fail locked, not open in a power outage.

Please get your summer semester software requests in for the labs computers. Jill will be sending out a note with the due date in the near future.

There is no new news on the Exchange 2010 and Unified Communications migration from CITES, although we do have a meeting with CITES scheduled for this Friday to discuss the process. We continue to migrate individuals from Express to Exchange. The Express email system will be retired in the future, so everyone (Windows and Mac users) needs to migrate. Jill continues to work to schedule these
migrations. A number of faculty have asked that we wait until the semester is over, so if you are willing/able to migrate before that, it is likely we can get you scheduled.

**Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, Rae-Anne Montague** – no report submitted

**Assistant Dean for Advancement, Diana Stroud** –
I would like to begin working on the “Virtual Homecoming” for alumni to occur in late September or early October of 2011. If you would be open to allowing GSLIS alumni to sit in on your class please let me know as soon as possible. Along the same lines if you have ideas for classes alumni would find interesting I am open to your suggestions.

Next CRT May 6, 9:00 am, Illini Center Chicago. Presenters: Les Gasser and Terry van Thaden. Topic TBA. Call in and web conference will be available.

Faculty – Staff Campaign will kick off April 15 to May 13. You will be hearing from the committee about the priorities soon. If you have given to GSLIS this fiscal year your gift will count toward this campaign, thank you in advance for your support of GSLIS.

The information for a new giving page on our website has been completed. In the near future you will be able to go to the page, click on a category and see the full list of funds available for your consideration. You will then be able to choose from the annual fund, scholarships, fellowships, faculty support etc., once you click on one category all of the funds available under that category will pop up for your selection.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

**Masters students, Meghan Kutz** – no report submitted

**CAS students** – no report submitted

**PhD students, Caroline Nappo** – nothing to report

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Admissions Committee, Jon Gant** –
The Admissions Committee has provided admission statistics as of March 29, 2011 (see attachment).

**Curriculum Committee, Terry Weech** –
The Curriculum Committee has been working on reports needed as background for our ALA-COA Accreditation program presentation and on a proposed revision of one of the required courses in the African Studies Joint MS Degree program. In the course of responding to student concerns over one of the required courses in this Joint Degree program, the Committee noted that there is no statement on the
GSLIS web of procedures for students to follow if they have concerns about a specific course. We suggest that it might be appropriate to develop and provide such a statement on our web site in order to offer students guidance on procedures. The Curriculum Committee has also formed a subcommittee to review our curriculum in terms of how it responds to the needs of a diverse society (ALA-COA Standard II.3.4). Our next Curriculum Committee meeting is scheduled for April 13th in 109 LIS Building.

**Doctoral Studies Committee, Lori Kendall** –
Eleven of the 13 students we offered admission to the PhD program will be attending the Research Showcase this Friday, April 8. As of March 28, 7 of the 13 students we admitted have accepted. The DSC has also reviewed and approved questions for the field exams. Field exams began on Friday, April 1 and continue through the morning of the 15th. We continue to work on recruitment strategies, clarifications for the website, and other issues. We have received nominations for the Berner-Nash award and are reviewing those now. The PhD application has been moved from January 5 to December 15 with approval from the Executive Committee.

**Faculty Senate, Terry Weech** –
Call for a University-wide Summit on Organization and Governance—Recent discussions over institutional governance issues have been mired in conflicting interpretations of the Statutes and General Rules, or over the meaning of ambiguous slogans like “One university, three campuses,” whose concrete implications for organization are unclear.

What follows is the Summit Agenda as passed without any dissenting votes at the March 28th UIUC Academic Senate meeting:

Myles Brand, President of Indiana University in the 1990’s, expressed reservations about IU’s own version of this slogan:

Brevity may be the soul of wit, but it is a nasty nuisance when we are talking about the connections between IU’s campuses. Previous efforts to capture the concept in a metaphor have occasionally met with criticism. Remember “one university with eight front doors”?

The Diehl report shows that comparable universities to ours rely on a variety of models, but that generally these fall into multi-campus and multi-site models. The first are more system-like. The latter tend to revolve around a single central campus, usually with the President at its helm, and a variety of smaller regional branches. We believe that the ?One university, three campuses? slogan obscures these fundamentally different models. The University of Illinois is clearly more of the first type; the Chicago and Springfield campuses rightly do not consider themselves regional branches of the Urbana campus.

Rather than continuing to debate differing interpretations of this slogan, which appears nowhere in the Statutes or General Rules, we seek a wider university discussion over the following principles, all of which either derive from the Statutes and General Rules, or are at least consistent with them. Each is, we believe, essential to a properly functioning organization.

We urge our fellow Senates and University Senates Conference to add their endorsement.

We are not proposing any specific membership for this summit meeting, and details would need to be arranged. But the discussion ought to include representatives of faculty governance, student governance, all three campus Chancellors, the President, and representatives of the Board of Trustees.
In keeping with our governing documents and with the information presented in the Diehl Report, we propose that the following principles should support planning for the future of our University:

1. The General Rules affirm that the University of Illinois is not a system of totally independent units. It is, however, a system of largely independent units, each possessing a high degree of delegated authority. Each university campus is a constitutionally self-governing entity, each with its own Senate. At the same time, the campuses should work together to achieve intercampus cooperation, and to avoid unnecessary duplication through shared services organized through the university-level administration.

2. The campuses are not simply local or regional branches of a single institutional entity. Each is an independently accredited university campus, with distinct identities, functions, constituencies, and national/international reputations.

3. The Chancellor of each campus is its Chief Executive Officer—the leader, chief decisionmaker, and the public face of the campus. While properly reporting to the President, and having additional responsibilities that may be delegated by the President, the powers and responsibilities inherent in the role of Chief Executive are not delegated and may not be withdrawn or compromised.

4. One of the inherent responsibilities of each Chancellor as Chief Executive is representing his/her campus in wider organizations of which the campus is the constituent member.

5. Another key principle is chain of command. If this is a principle in the relation of President to Chancellor, as has been asserted, then it must equally be a principle from the Chancellor flowing down through the campus.

6. Specific to that principle, all campus-level staff should report to the Chancellor. Any additional reporting or consultative lines to university administration must be secondary to those campus reporting lines.

7. Also specific to that principle is that formal meetings that the President initiates with campus-level officers, faculty, or students should occur only after the President has consulted with the Chancellor about doing so; and in many cases the Chancellor will properly expect to be included in such meetings. This is not only a gesture of collegial respect to the Chancellor; it avoids giving the message that campus officials, faculty, or students can or should circumvent the Chancellor in taking issues directly to the President.

8. Following up on another central conclusion of the Diehl report, academic policy matters are generally best left to decision-making closer to the level at which academic initiatives, including research initiatives, are actually developed and managed. Centralization of these matters is usually counterproductive, and inconsistent with the distinct roles and identities of the campuses.

9. Finally, as the Statutes specify, any proposals for organizational restructuring that bear upon academic policy matters must be submitted as formal proposals for faculty review through the University Senates Conference and/or the individual Senates.

We believe that the time has come for a University-wide discussion of the implications of these principles for planned administrative restructuring and for the progressive implementation of changes already approved. We hope that the results of a smaller-group summit, along the lines proposed here, can then stimulate and inform a wider university conversation about the kind of institution we want to be.