Date: April 5, 2004  
To: All Faculty  
From: Tom Griffiths, Acting Dean of the Faculty  
Subject: April Faculty Meeting Notes

Here is the latest news I have received of the activities of Illinois Wesleyan University faculty -- including and especially reports on scholarly writing, composition, artistry, grants, awards, procreative and adoptive activities, and other recognition given for both curricular and artistic/scholarly achievement. Please join Acting Provost Roger Schnaitter and me in congratulating the following colleagues on their significant accomplishments.

- On February 17, 2004, Professor Marina Balina (MCLL) gave a noontime invited lecture at the Russian, East European, and Eurasian Center at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The title of her talk was “Politicizing Magic: Fairy Tales of Socialist Realism” which, not coincidentally, is similar to the title of her forthcoming book “Politicizing Magic: Russian and Soviet Fairy Tales” (forthcoming, Northwestern University Press).
- Professor Sonja Fritzsche (MCLL) has been invited to join 24 other professors in Germany this summer as participants in the Fulbright Commission's German Studies Seminar 2004. The seminar is entitled: "Visual Culture in Germany: Film, Television and the Internet" and will take place from June 5 - 25. Sonja reports that she will travel to Berlin, Cologne, and Munich with a few assorted stops in between. The experience is fully funded and includes an interesting mix of people from Film Studies, German Studies, Communications, and a few film directors as well.
- Adjunct Professor James House (Chemistry) reports that the second edition of his book “Fundamentals of Quantum Chemistry” is progressing well and should be released soon. The publisher is Elsevier (291 pp., 2004).
- Professor Fred Hoyt has just assumed the Presidency of the Marketing Management Association, the largest of the 14 marketing associations that meet under the umbrella of the Midwest Business Administration Association. Professor Hoyt edited the 2004 Proceedings of the society entitled Marketing in a Changing World.
- Professor Valérie Orlando (MCLL) has been accepted as a participant in the Fulbright-Hays Summer Seminar in Morocco this coming summer. The Seminar runs from June 23-July 24 (with optional research time extended into August) and is on the topic of women's issues in Morocco. She has also published an article entitled “Les politiques de la race et de la patriarchie dans Claire-Solange, âme africaine de Suzanne Lacascade” which appeared in Etudes Francophones (pp. 77-87, Autumn, 2003).

• On the jazz side of the campus, Professor Tom Streeter (Music) was a discussion panelist in the Illinois Music Educator’s Association All-State Conference held in Peoria in January 2004. The topic of his discussion group was “Creating and Sustaining a Quality Jazz Program.”

• Visiting Professor Kevin Sullivan’s (Religion) new book, published by E. J. Brill and based on his D.Phil. thesis at Oxford, has just come out and is entitled Wrestling with Angels—A Study of the Relationship between Angels and Humans in Ancient Jewish Literature and the New Testament. Although Kevin has recently accepted a tenure-track position in a large Scripture department at Marquette University, it is wonderful that IWU will be credited for having had him here when his first book appeared. Professor Brian Hatcher tells me that on the dust jacket and the Brill website, Kevin is identified as: “Kevin P. Sullivan, D.Phil. (2002) in Theology, University of Oxford, is Visiting Assistant Professor of Religion at Illinois Wesleyan University.”

• Professor Cesar Valverde (Hispanic Studies) had an article entitled "Pasado soterrado y masculinidad perdida en La muñeca reina y Chac Mool" ("Buried past and lost masculinity in La muñeca reina and Chac Mool") appear in the Hispanic Journal (vol. 23.2, pp. 65-76, 2004). The article reports on a study on the relationship between diminished masculinity in literary characters and a pervasive sense of historical loss in two stories by Carlos Fuentes. Cesar also gave a two-part radio interview discussing his work on masculinity on the Universidad de Costa Rica's program "Cátedra Universitaria" on March the 15th. The Universidad de Costa Rica's graduate program in literature has invited him to teach a course this summer titled "Nation, alienation and exile." Cesar reports that the course will look at how writers in exile conceive of the nations they have left behind in terms of their own racial and sexual alienations.

I am happy to report that we have some new additions to our community. Christina Isabelli (Hispanic Studies) and Osorio Arturo Garcia are the parents of a little girl named Sofia Ximena Garcia. Sofia entered the world on March 5 at 5:09 a.m. weighing 7 lbs., 15 oz. and with a total length of 21 inches. Michelle Anne Soukup joined us on March 15, 2004, with a weight of 6 lbs. and a total length of 19 inches. She and her parents Mark and Sheryl Soukup (Biology) are all doing well.