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University Commencement Committee

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Minutes
University Commencement Committee
January 12, 2009
College of Liberal Arts Small Conference Room

The meeting began at 1:00 p.m. with the following members present: Deborah Dropcho (Student Government, COSM), Ron Helms (CEHS), Deborah Hess (CEHS), Carol Loranger (COLA), Jo Ann Lumpkin (COBA), and Jacob Dorn (COLA), chair. Charles Fox and Sabrina Sheetz, the other Student Government officers, were unable to attend because of classes; Professor Fred Garber (CECS) was also absent.

After approval of the minutes of the meeting of October 14, 2008, the committee reviewed three inquiries about the suitability of nominations for honorary degrees at the 2009 commencements. At this stage in the process of determining honorary-degree recipients, the committee's only concern was whether the proposed individuals are ineligible according to the university's "Guidelines for Awarding Honorary Degrees."

In all three instances, the committee was unanimous in finding that the individuals fall within those guidelines. Professor Dorn will notify the authors of the letters of inquiry of this determination and remind them that the next step is for them to submit full nominations, as defined in the "Procedures for Honorary Degree Nominations," to him no later than March 2, 2009. The committee will decide on what recommendations to make to President David Hopkins after that date.

The meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.