MINUTES OF THE FACULTY SENATE

The April meeting of the Faculty Senate resumed at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 17 in Room 116 of the Education Center, Speaker of the Faculty Trisha Folds-Bennett presiding. Forty-three senators attended.

Reports

The Speaker

Trisha Folds-Bennett began the meeting by extending hearty congratulations to William Moore, winner of the College’s first Teacher-Scholar Award, given for outstanding achievement in both capacities. She then reported that the Presidential Search Committee had met earlier in the day, for five hours. Things were proceeding well, she believed, and a highly-qualified pool of applicants was emerging. On being asked how many semi-finalists remained, she said that it would only be proper to say, “more than ten.”

Hugh Wilder offered to answer any questions that he could, within the obvious restrictions of confidentiality imposed by the search process. He reported that it now looked as though final interviews with candidates would take place in early June, and asked the faculty please to communicate questions or concerns directly to the Committee.

The Speaker said that the changes in the grading system approved earlier by the Senate were still being widely discussed; Hugh Wilder would be “leading the charge” on this in his role as Speaker next semester. Another matter of some importance: it looked as though the By-Laws and the Faculty/Administration Manual would eventually be put “on line.” Faculty would be able to request a paper version, of course, but would also be able to “download” directly from the Web, when the document was completed. She noted that By-Laws changes passed by the Senate have to be endorsed by the full faculty before being sent “up the line” to the Provost, the President, and finally the Trustees for final approval. She also reported that she had asked the Faculty Welfare Committee to look into the Family Medical Leave Act.

The Long Range Planning Committee was also “gearing up,” the Speaker said, and ideas, if any, about long-range plans could be forwarded to the chair, Conrad Festa, now Provost Emeritus. Peter McCandless said one thing that could do with a little long-range planning was the climate control system in Maybank Hall, which had not worked properly since the building was built a generation ago: perhaps this is the time, now that the leadership of the College is about to change, to make our real concerns as a faculty known.

The Speaker concluded her report with the happy news that Reid Wiseman had once again run in the Boston Marathon.
William Danaher, on behalf of the Assessment Committee, gave a preliminary report on the pilot ETS (Educational Testing Service) Academic Profile Test administered to students enrolled in Freshman Seminar 101 in the Fall of 2000. This pilot program had been designed to begin measure the effectiveness of the General Education Program at the College, and resulted from a report given last year by Rhonda Swickert on how such measurements could be undertaken. A more detailed report would be sent to the Senate in the Fall, as further data became available. Meanwhile, according to these preliminary results from participants in the Freshman Seminar, our current Gen. Ed. program appears, he said, to be quite effective. The results were put in tabular form, on the overhead projector:

ETS Academic Profile
Administered Fall 2000
Summary Results

WHO IS INCLUDED?

Total Students Enrolled in Freshman Seminar-101: 512

Total Tests Sent to ETS for Scoring: 465

Total Tests Used in Analysis Results: 447

Difference*: 18

*The difference is that 18 tests were scored to have a value of 400 where less than half of the questions on the tests were answered. These scores were excluded in the ETS Summary analysis.

WHAT ARE THE RESULTS?

Overall Total Score Average: 444.7

How that compares to:

- Freshmen at Comprehensive Institutions: 444.6 (n=26,511)
- Freshmen at Liberal Arts Institutions: 443.5 (n=33,794)

James Carew wanted to know what was actually being measured by this test. Mr. Danaher said that it measured the effectiveness of the General Education curriculum. Robert Mignone asked whether the test measured student satisfaction with the Gen. Ed. curriculum, or student achievement? The answer was, satisfaction.
New Business

Robert Mignone, for the Committee on Nominations and Elections, nominated a slate of candidates for Senate Committees for next year. The slate was elected:

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<tr>
<th>Academic Planning:</th>
<th>By-Laws:</th>
<th>Budget:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heldrich Rick</td>
<td>England Michael</td>
<td>Beam Charles</td>
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<td>Kasman Alex</td>
<td>Kinard Frank</td>
<td>Diamond Beverly</td>
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<td>Kattwinkel Susan</td>
<td>Mignone Robert</td>
<td>Bodek Richard</td>
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<td>McNerney Todd</td>
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<td>Cossa Frank</td>
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<td>Krasnoff Larry</td>
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<td>Fidalgo-Eick Maria</td>
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<td>Cox Ben</td>
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<td>Phillips C. Michael</td>
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<td>Olejniczak Bill</td>
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<td>McCandless Peter</td>
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For the Curriculum Committee, Lynn Cherry put forward a series of twenty motions. These were taken up and voted on (with evident relief) as a single motion, and passed unanimously:

- S01-063 GEOL 103 & 103L - Environmental Geology New Course (3hrs./1hr.)
- S01-065 GEOL 205 - Environmental Geology Delete Course
- S01-067 GEOL 102 - Earth History Change Course Number & Prereq.
- S01-073 B.S. in Geology Change Degree Req
- S01-074 B.A. in Geology Change Degree Req
- S01-075 B.A. or B.S. in Geology w/concentration in Environmental Geology Change Degree Req
- S01-100 FREN 363 - Advanced French Culture Change Course Num
- S01-120 FREN 452 - Literature of the Maghreb New Course (3)
- S01-121 FREN 461 - The Middle Ages & Renaissance in France Change Course Num
- S01-122 FREN 462 - The 17th Century Change Course Num
- S01-123 MUSC 150 - Physics of Sound & Music Change Credit Hrs
- S01-124 PHYS 150 - Physics of Sound & Music Change Credit Hrs
- S01-125 ASST 240 - Special Topics in Asian Stud. New Course (3)
- S01-126 ASST 340 - Special Topics in Asian Stud. New Course (3)
- S01-127 ASST 390 - Indep. Study in Asian Studies New Course (3)
- S01-128 ANTH 328 - Aztecs, Mayas, and Their Ancestors New Course (3)
- S01-129 HIST 266 - Aztecs, Mayas, and Their Ancestors New Course (3)
- S01-131 LACS Minor Change in Req.
FOR INFORMATION ONLY:

PSYC 410 - Special Topics Course: Behavioral Genetics (3)
PEHD -- Change in Degree Name: B.S.: Physical Education with a Concentration in Athletic Training will change to B.S.: Athletic Training

Constituents’ Concerns

No constituents were concerned, and Trisha Folds-Bennett concluded the year, and her term as Speaker of the Faculty, by thanking the Senate for the opportunity to serve, and the Parliamentarian, George Pothering, for his expert advice and assistance. She received a standing ovation.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting adjourned sine die at about 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bishop Hunt,
Faculty Secretary