To: Faculty  
From: Susan Farrell, Faculty Secretary  
About: September Senate Meeting

**Highlights**

The Faculty Senate met on Tuesday, September 13 for nearly two hours. Here are the highlights (full minutes to follow later):

--Susan Kattwinkel was elected Speaker Pro Tem for 2005-2006.

--Speaker Bob Mignone spoke about the necessity of the general education review now taking place on campus. Since we review our majors quite frequently, he believes it is essential that we also review the one part of our curriculum that we have in common: general education. Mr. Mignone announced that faculty forums to discuss general education will be held on October 24th and October 25th in the Beaty Center (specific times to be announced later).

--Provost Elise Jorgens echoed Mr. Mignone about the importance of general education and strongly encouraged faculty to become involved in the review process since we all have a stake in general education. She reported, in addition, that she has been working with the Deans to identify areas of institutional distinctiveness. Finally, she discussed her views on the new grading system at the College, which originally was to be implemented in Fall of 2006. The provost expressed concerns that the new system would cause grade deflation, which would adversely affect students, especially those with LIFE and HOPE scholarships. She announced that she had asked Mr. Mignone to send the proposal back to the Academic Standards Committee to further investigate the system's possible impact on students. She has asked Kay Smith to work with the committee on this task.

--Speaker Bob Mignone then opened the floor for fifteen minutes so that faculty members could air their concerns about delaying implementation of the new grading system. Several faculty members argued against such a delay, citing procedural irregularities, saying grades and retention policies should not be linked, and pointing out that this issue had been thoroughly discussed when it first came up several years ago. At the end of this discussion, Mr. Mignone affirmed that the grading policy issue has been sent back to the Academic Standards Committee for further review.

--After much discussion, the Senate voted in favor of the new XF grade as an honor violation sanction.

--All proposals put forth by both the Curriculum Committee and the Committee on Graduate Education passed.

--The Senate voted to endorse the resolution to hire a recycling coordinator, brought by the Committee on Recycling and Environmental Activity.