The faculty met on Monday, April 24, 2006, at 5:00 p.m. in Physicians Auditorium. Speaker Bob Mignone called the meeting to order, and the minutes from the Fall, 2005 meeting of the faculty were approved.

The President’s Report

Mr. Mignone recognized College President Lee Higdon and thanked him for the remarkable accomplishments he has achieved during his five years at the College. Since Mr. Higdon has been here, student SAT scores have increased by 50 points. The average GPA of entering freshmen has risen to 3.8. There has been a 75% increase in square footage at the College, and we have added 67 new faculty members. In addition, Mr. Higdon raised 61 million dollars in four years, and was able to strengthen faculty salaries, sabbaticals, and research support. Mr. Mignone wished the Higdons good luck in their new pursuits, and faculty members gave Mr. Higdon a standing ovation.

Mr. Higdon began his remarks by saying that faculty members at the College have been a great group to work with. He knew there were substantial opportunities when he came here, but he didn’t know how far we could go or how bad the environment for higher education would be in the country and the state. At the end of the day, he said, college presidents come and go. Faculty members account for continuity at a college. Mr. Higdon said that he doesn’t take credit for the successes mentioned by Mr. Mignone; he had “a great product to sell.” The College is doing a survey right now about areas of distinctiveness and most responses refer to the faculty. He is excited about our future at the college, and pointed out that he said “our” purposefully. Mr. Higdon concluded by saying it had been an “honor, privilege, and pleasure” to serve us these past five years and that he looks forward to returning to Charleston on many occasions.

Distinguished Awards

President Higdon then recognized the winners of the following distinguished faculty awards:

- **Distinguished Teaching Award**: Dr. Alex Kasman (Mathematics)
- **Distinguished Research Award**: Dr. Louis Burnett (Biology)
- **Distinguished Service Award**: Dr. Bob Mignone (Mathematics)
- **Distinguished Advising Award 1**: Dr. Gary Asleson (Chemistry)
- **Distinguished Advising Award 2**: Dr. Agnes Ayme-Southgate (Biology)
- **Distinguished Teacher-Scholar Award**: Dr. Lisa Thomson Ross (Psychology)

The President congratulated each award winner and read the following citations:

The **2006 Distinguished Teaching Award** is presented to a professor whose depth of thought about the nature of teaching showed in every page of his packet. He makes
himself available through extensive office hours & requires each student to come in for at least one conference. He offers a variety of teaching methods & materials for students with differing abilities & motivation. He uses discussions extensively, supplemented by PowerPoint & other aids. His meticulously updated web pages include a database of test questions & many detailed tutorials, with an abundance of illustrations & animations. “He seems to have that rare ability to make his students think that math is fun without compromising standards.” He frequently brings scientific papers to class to show his students the relevance of mathematical concepts. His fascination with mathematical fiction has resulted in a web site on the subject, a new course offered through the Honors College, & credits in published fiction by other authors. He has served the greater community as director of the Math Meet & as a panelist, at Stanford University, on the status of women in mathematics.

Dr. Alex Kasman’s mathematics department colleagues portray him as a “unique combination of… Expertise, interest, skills, and abilities across disciplines…a truly outstanding teacher, a distinguished scholar, and a champion for all of science.”

The recipient of the Distinguished Research Award has been an incredibly active & productive researcher for many years, collaborating with colleagues in his own department as well as individuals from other institutions & both his graduate & undergraduate students. He has an enviable quantity of articles published in prestigious journals, & has given numerous presentations throughout the United States, Canada, Australia, & Scotland. In addition, he has written proposals that have brought over 1.5 million dollars of grant money to the College. He has served for ten years as an associate editor for The Biological Bulletin, a marine journal that has been published since 1897, as well as having served on the editorial boards of three other important journals. He is a member of many major professional societies & is currently the secretary of the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology.

Through his efforts, he has brought national & international recognition to the College of Charleston while training his students to perform top-level research & become internationally renowned researchers in their own right. Most importantly, the Distinguished Research Award recipient, Dr. Louis Burnett of the Biology Department, has tirelessly worked towards understanding the effects of changing environments on our fragile oceans.

The Distinguished Service Award goes to someone who has served as a senator, acting department chair, & speaker of the faculty (now in his 5th term). He has also won grants, participated in numerous campus committees, published, & organized conferences and meetings. He continues his role as Chair of the SC Council of University & Faculty Chairs & as statewide faculty representative to the Advisory Committee on
Academic Programs. From 1999 to 2002, he represented the College to the SC Commission on Higher Education.

According to one of his letters of support, what distinguishes this faculty member is the “selflessness with which he has taken on extremely burdensome duties with very little compensation, either in release time or money.” The award for Distinguished Service to the College for 2006 goes to Robert Mignone of the Mathematics Dept.

The first of the 2006 Distinguished Advising Awards is presented to an individual who is a model advisor, who takes time with each student, who listens to their needs, who aids in plotting the correct course of action, and who always places the student’s welfare foremost. To this faculty member, advising is more than setting up a schedule of classes, but is also a matter of consistently helping both students and organizations set and reach high goals. He is able to confer with students and give them his wisdom in a manner that inculcates great trust. Alumni consistently ask about him, and say that he provided wonderful advice, both academic and career. In addition, he is the faculty advisor for the College of Charleston Chapter of the Alpha Chi Sigma Professional Chemistry Fraternity, and has been since its inception in 1981.

Dr. Gary Asleson, of the Chemistry Department, is an outstanding advisor who has been a role model and confidant for many students and is highly deserving of this honor.

The second Distinguished Advising Award is presented to a faculty member who currently has the largest number of advisees in a very large department, as well as drawing additional students who seek her guidance, because of her caring and conscientious advising. She has been a premedical advisor since 2000, and last August became chair of the Health Professions Committee. In this position, she advises undeclared students, students from a variety of majors across campus, and biology majors. She also coordinates the committee, writes summary letters for student applicants to pre-med programs, maintains contact with numerous professional schools, and insures advice given to students is correct regarding prerequisites for admission. She is also a dedicated mentor to undergraduate research scientists.

Dr. Agnes Ayme-Southgate has distinguished herself in advising students in the Biology Department and the College.

The recipient of the Distinguished Teacher-Scholar Award was selected from a highly qualified group of nominees and bears the genuine hallmark of the teacher-scholar, which is all the more impressive given her youth and relatively brief academic career. “Her teaching, scholarship and service connect her with students & form a whole that is greater
than the sum of its parts.” She offers scientifically-oriented classes, with a strong emphasis on reviewing the empirical research basis of traditional course topics. She is an experimental psychologist with both basic & applied research interests who understands the importance of connecting her own work with issues that regularly emerge in class. Students strongly value her teaching, which is typically described as engaging, relaxed, supportive, encouraging, enthusiastic & accessible. She has continually modified and fine-tuned her courses based on students’ and colleagues’ feedback. As a scholar who values empirically-based teaching techniques, she has developed a secondary research focus in pedagogy. She has also served as a peer teaching coach to the benefit of faculty colleagues.

She is an active scholar in the field of Psychology, contributing to the field by serving as a manuscript reviewer & publishing & presenting her own work. Her research focuses on the **Family Unpredictability Scale**, an original measure of disorganization & chaos in families that she first described in 2000 in the *Journal of Marriage and Family*. She has a retrospective version of her scale under review & is currently developing an adolescent version of it during her sabbatical. Her greatest strength is mentoring students with individual attention, as reflected in a dozen independent study projects & 7 Bachelor’s essay projects in the past 8 years. Almost all of these students have presented their work at at least one conference & she has six publications with students, three in peer-reviewed journals, with more in preparation.

**Dr. Lisa Thomson Ross** of the Psychology Department has a research program which blends seamlessly with her teaching & attracts excellent students, each of whom speaks very highly of her skills as teacher and researcher.

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**Retirements**

President Higdon, with the help of each professor’s academic dean, recognized thirteen retiring faculty members for their many years of dedicated service. The retiring faculty are:

- **Franklin Ashley**, Professor of Theatre
- **Robert Ivey**, Professor of Theatre
- **Bob Rouse**, Professor Emeritus of Accounting and Legal Studies
- **Larry McNitt**, Associate Professor Emeritus of Management
- **Shirley Moore**, Assistant Professor of Communication
- **Joe Harrison**, Associate Professor Emeritus of English
- **Jane McCollough**, Associate Professor Emeritus of Political Science
- **Larry Sims**, Associate Professor Emeritus of Classics
- **Clyde Metz**, Professor Emeritus of Chemistry
- **Bill Golightly**, Associate Professor Emeritus of Mathematics
- **George Haborak**, Professor Emeritus of Mathematics
- **Jimmy Wilkinson**, Professor Emeritus of Computer Science
- **Hugh Haynsworth**, Professor Emeritus of Mathematics
The Speaker’s Report

Speaker Bob Mignone began his report by announcing that every active faculty member will need a new Cougar Card. There will be times in May and August for faculty to be re-carded, and we should be receiving more information soon in our boxes.

Mr. Mignone then spoke briefly about the College’s search for a new president. While he said that he couldn’t give faculty members a great deal of information at this point, he did say that he would be happy to talk to any of us about the search individually.

New Business

The Committee on Nominations and Elections then held an election for next year’s faculty committees. The following committees were elected:

Academic Standards, Admissions, and Financial Aid-7
Von Bakanic, Associate Professor, Sociology
Chris Korey, Assistant Professor, Biology
Larry Krasnoff, Associate Professor, Philosophy
George Pothering, Professor, Computer Science
Michael Skinner, Professor, Foundations, Secondary, and Special Education
Catherine Thomas*, Assistant Professor, English
Marianne Verlinden*, Instructor, Hispanic Studies

Assessment of Institutional Effectiveness-9
Burton Callicott*, Librarian II, Library
Hollis France, Assistant Professor, Political Science
Jose Gavidia, Assistant Professor, Marketing and Management
Margaret Hagood, Assistant Professor, Elementary and Early Childhood Education
Caroline Hunt, Professor, English
Linda Jones, Associate Professor, Physics and Astronomy
Stephen Litvin*, Associate Professor, Hospitality and Tourism Management
Andrei Straumanis*, Assistant Professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry
William Veal, Assistant Professor, Elementary and Early Childhood Education

Bookstore Council-1
Bob Frash, Assistant Professor, Hospitality & Tourism Management

Committee on Nominations and Elections-7
Kathleen DeHaan, Associate Professor, Communication
Marion Doig*, Professor, Chemistry
Lynne Ford*, Associate Professor, Political Science
Annette Godow*, Senior Instructor, Physical Education and Health
Tom Kunkle, Associate Professor, Mathematics
Frank Morris*, Associate Professor, Classics/German/Italian/Japanese/Russian
C. Michael Phillips*, Librarian III, Library
Compensation-7
Gary Aselson*, Professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry
Dongmei Cao, Librarian II, Library
Deanna Caveny*, Associate Professor, Mathematics
Chip Condon*, Professor, Economics and Finance
David Gentry, Professor, Psychology
Todd Grantham, Associate Professor, Philosophy
Terry Richardson, Senior Instructor, Physics and Astronomy

Curriculum Committee-9
Timothy Callahan, Assistant Professor, Geology and Environmental Geosciences
John Creed, Associate Professor, Political Science
Giovanna De Luca*, Classics, German, Italian, Japanese, and Russian
Michael Gomez, Assistant Professor, Hispanic Studies
Gerald Gonsalves*, Assistant Professor, Management and Marketing
Renling Jin*, Associate Professor, Mathematics
Cherie Larson, Assistant Professor, Elementary and Early Childhood Education
Martha Stackel, Librarian II, Library
Rhonda Swickert*, Associate Professor, Psychology

Educational Technology-7 (no more than 2 from one department)
Jannette Finch, Librarian II, Library
Mark Hurd, Assistant Professor, Psychology
Allen Lyndrup*, Professor, Theatre
James Neff*, Associate Professor, Physics and Astronomy
Myra Seaman*, Associate Professor, English
Jared Seay*, Librarian II, Library
Christopher Starr*, Associate Professor, Computer Science

Faculty Advisory Committee to the President-11
Jennifer Baker*, Assistant Professor, Philosophy
Calvin Blackwell, Assistant Professor, Economics and Finance
Michelle Brooks*, Assistant Professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry
Frank Cossa, Professor, Art History
Linda Fitzharris, Associate Professor, Elementary and Early Childhood Education
Conseula Francis*, Assistant Professor, English
Isaac Green*, Assistant Professor, Computer Science
Susan Kattwinkel, Associate Professor, Theatre
June McDaniel, Professor, Religious Studies
Susan Rozzi, Associate Professor, Physical Education and Health
Gorka Sancho*, Assistant Professor, Biology

Faculty Grievance Committee- 9 [5 regular (3 tenured, 2 not tenured) – 4 alternates (2 tenured, 2 not tenured)]
Stephen Della Lana*, Instructor, Non-tenured, Classics, German, Italian, Japanese, and
Russian
Antony Harold, Associate Professor, Tenured, Biology
Chris Lamb, Associate Professor, Tenured, Communication
Anthony Leclerc, Associate Professor, Tenured, Computer Science
Karen Smail*, Assistant Professor, Non-Tenured, Physical Education and Health
Alternate: Edith Ellis, Assistant Professor, Non-Tenured, Physical Education and Health
Alternate: Sheridan Hough, Associate Professor, Tenured, Philosophy
Alternate: J. Michael Morgan, Professor, Tenured, Economics and Finance
Alternate: Philip Siegel, Assistant Professor, Non-Tenured, Accounting and Legal Studies

**Faculty Hearing Committee-11 [5 regular (at least 2 full Prof) - 6 alternates (at least 2 full Prof) - all members tenured]**
Tessa Garton, Associate Professor, Art History
Rick Heldrich, Professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry
Peter McCandless, Professor, History
Sheila Seaman, Librarian III, Library
Herb Silverman, Professor, Mathematics
Alternate: Virginia Bartel, Associate Professor, Elementary and Early Childhood Education
Alternate: Henry Donato, Professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry
Alternate: Barbara Duval*, Professor, Studio Art
Alternate: Kim May, Associate Professor, Psychology
Alternate: Deborah Miller*, Professor, Physical Education and Health
Alternate: Robert Norton, Professor, Mathematics

**Faculty Research and Development-9**
Tim Carens*, Associate Professor, English
Tim Carmichael, Assistant Professor, History
Maria Colomina-Garrigos, Assistant Professor, Hispanic Studies
Brenton LeMesurier, Associate Professor, Mathematics
Clifton Peacock, Professor, Studio Art
Gioconda Quesada*, Assistant Professor, Management and Marketing
Thomas Ross, Associate Professor, Psychology
Alem Teklu, Assistant Professor, Physics and Astronomy
Justin Wyatt*, Assistant Professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry

**Faculty Welfare Committee-8**
Karen Berg*, Senior Instructor, Hispanic Studies
Claire Curtis*, Assistant Professor, Political Science
William Danaher*, Associate Professor, Sociology
James Deavor*, Professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry
Sara Frankel*, Assistant Professor, Studio Art
Bethany Goodier*, Assistant Professor, Communication
Glenn Lesses, Professor, Philosophy
Steven Jaume*, Assistant Professor, Geology and Environmental Geosciences
Graduate Education, Continuing Education and Special Programs - 5 (at least 1 grad faculty)
Michael England*, Senior Instructor, Mathematics
Patrick Hurley, Assistant Professor, Political Science, grad teaching
Elizabeth Martin*, Associate Professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry, grad teaching
Shawn Morrison*, Associate Professor, French, grad teaching
Julie Swanson, Associate Professor, Foundations, Secondary, and Special Education, grad teaching

Honors Program Committee - 5 (three teaching in Honors Program)
Jason Coy, Assistant Professor, History, honors teaching
Marie Fitzwilliam, Senior Instructor, English, honors teaching
Gary Harrison*, Professor, Mathematics
Philip Powell, Librarian II, Library
Laura Turner, Associate Professor, Theatre, honors teaching

Honor Board - 5
Patrick Fragile, Assistant Professor, Physics and Astronomy
Robert Podolsky, Assistant Professor, Biology
Mark Pyles, Assistant Professor, Economics and Finance
Carol Toris, Associate Professor, Psychology
Janice Wright, Associate Professor, Hispanic Studies

Library - 7
Briget Doyle, Assistant Professor, Geology and Environmental Geosciences
Kara Hammond*, Assistant Professor, Studio Art
Guoli Liu, Associate Professor, Political Science
Elijah Siegler*, Assistant Professor, Religious Studies
Lee Siow, Assistant Professor, Music
Brett Tangedal, Associate Professor, Mathematics
Noelle Zeiner, Assistant Professor, Classics, German, Italian, Japanese, and Russian

Parking Advisory and Adjudication Committee - 2 (1 regular and 1 alternate)
Allan Allday, Assistant Professor, Foundations, Secondary, and Special Education
Alternate: Luis Linares-Ocanto, Associate Professor, Hispanic Studies

Post-Tenure Review Committee - 10 (5 regular, 5 alternates - all tenured)
Katherine Bielsky, Librarian II, Library
Bonnie Devet, Professor*, English
Katherine Johnston-Thom*, Professor, Mathematics
Denis Keyes, Associate Professor, Foundations, Secondary, and Special Education
Walter Pharr*, Assistant Professor, Computer Science
Alternate: Barbara Borg*, Associate Professor, Sociology
Alternate: Lou Burnett, Professor, Biology
Alternate: Charles Kaiser, Professor, Psychology
Alternate: Lee Lindner, Associate Professor, Physics and Astronomy
Alternate: Darryl Phillips, Associate Professor, Classics, German, Italian, Japanese, and Russian

**Recycling and Environmental Responsibility**-5
Nadia Avendano, Assistant Professor, Hispanic Studies
Yoshiki Chikuma*, Assistant Professor, Classics, German, Italian, Japanese, and Russian
Michelle Futrell, Instructor, Physical Education and Health
Irina Gigova*, Assistant Professor, History
Angela Halfacre Hitchcock, Associate Professor, Political Science

**Student Affairs and Athletics**-5
Jocelyn Evans, Assistant Professor, Economics and Finance
Renard Harris, Assistant Professor, Elementary and Early Childhood Education
Amy Langeville, Assistant Professor, Mathematics
Robert Lindsey, Assistant Professor, Physical Education and Health
Amy Rogers, Assistant Professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry

**Tenure, Promotion, and Third-Year Review**-10  (5 regular, 5 alternates - all tenured)
Jane Clary*, Professor, Economics and Finance
Phil Jos*, Professor, Political Science
Nancy Nenno, Associate Professor, Classics, German, Italian, Japanese, and Russian
Richard Nunan, Professor, Philosophy
Pamela Riggs-Gelasco*, Associate Professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry
Alternate: Tim Carens, Associate Professor, English
Alternate: Isaure de Buron, Associate Professor, Biology
Alternate: Martha Nabors, Professor, Elementary and Early Childhood Education
Alternate: Dinesh Sarvate, Professor, Mathematics
Alternate: Katina Strauch, Librarian IV, Library

The President then asked for the faculty to approve the degree candidates for this year’s commencement. This approval was granted unanimously.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Farrell
Faculty Secretary