MEMORANDUM

To: The Faculty

From: Bishop Hunt,
Faculty Secretary

About: Highlights of seventh Senate meeting

The Faculty Senate met for almost two hours on Tuesday, March 14. The main points:

--A recommendation from the Academic Planning Committee not to change the name of the Honors Program to "Honors College" was approved unanimously.

--A second recommendation from the Academic Planning Committee was also endorsed, giving general approval to a draft document prepared by the office of Academic Affairs on "Academic Affairs Policy Formation," with two minor changes, in sections 3.2.3 and 3.3.6. (The first of these minor changes was amended to read "shall" rather than "will").

--The Faculty Welfare Committee reported on recent difficulties with the College mail service; apparently some confusion still prevails as to what will or will not be delivered, by whom, and where.

--The Senate recommended approval of a CHANGE IN THE BY-LAWS, making the Registrar an ex officio, non-voting member of the Curriculum Committee and of the Committee on Graduate Education, Continuing Education, and Special Programs [Article V, Section 3 B 8a. and 3 B 2a., respectively, on p. 49 and p. 45 of the Faculty/Administration Manual].

--A motion introduced by Frank Cossa was amended and approved unanimously:

The Faculty Senate instructs the Academic Planning Committee [amended from "Faculty Welfare Committee"] to devise an instrument whereby the Faculty may evaluate the Administration, the results of this evaluation to be made available to the Faculty.

--A series of proposals from the Curriculum Committee was also amended and approved. These included a further clarification of the science requirement in Computer Science, and new courses or descriptions or changes in French, Philosophy, Religious Studies, Communication, Library, Geology, Art History, and Biology. (One course proposal, Biology 2XX, Ecology of Southern Africa, was not approved, but remanded to committee instead. Also, several proposed changes in Philosophy and Religious Studies, including the course descriptions for Philosophy 260, and Religious Studies 245 and 401, were amended in order to change them back to the way they had been worded in the original proposals submitted by the Philosophy Department to the Curriculum Committee.)

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--The Speaker reported on his so far unsuccessful efforts to find out how many *ad hoc* committees, teams, task-forces, and the like, dealing with academic matters, but not established by the Faculty, are currently in existence (e.g., the "Advisory Committee on the Advising Center," the "Retention and Graduation Committee," etc.). He expressed a strong belief that the Faculty Senate should be not only be informed about such *ad hoc* committees, but that, as a general rule, the existing committee structure should be used for "matters falling within the purview of standing Senate or College committees," as specified in the By-Laws.

--The Speaker also reported that the Conference of South Carolina Faculty Chairs has a position paper in preparation opposing the current cuts in the funding of higher education in South Carolina.

--At the end of the meeting, a *proposal for a change in the By-Laws* was introduced by Beverly Diamond, concerning the timing of nominations and elections for faculty committees.

The changes needed are:

Article V, Section 2 A:
Members of standing Senate committees are nominated by the Committee on Nominations and Elections by March 15 and elected by the Senate at the April Senate meeting.

Article V, Section 3A:
Members of standing College committees are nominated by the Committee on Nominations and Elections by March 15 and elected by the faculty (as defined in Article I Section 1) at the April faculty meeting.

Article V, Section 3B 3, 4:

(3) To present to Senators, in writing, its slate of candidates for standing Senate committees by March 15;

(4) To present to members of the faculty, in writing, its slate of candidates for standing College committees by March 15;

*Rationale: The dates currently listed in the By-Laws were written under the assumption that a Senate meeting would occur at the end of April. This is no longer the case, and the proposed dates describe what is actually required.*

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**Remaining Meetings for the Spring Term:**

*Faculty Senate: Tuesday, April 4 (ECTR 118)*

*General Faculty Meeting: Monday, April 24 (Recital Hall, Simons Center for the Arts)*