MEMORANDUM

To: The Faculty

From: Bishop Hunt, BCh
Faculty Secretary

About: Highlights of ninth (called) Senate meeting

The Faculty Senate met for three hours on Tuesday, April 18, talked a lot, and did this:

--Received a proposal to change the By-Laws (Article IV, section 2A) to say that "Faculty members on leave are not eligible to serve as Faculty Senators." The By-Laws Committee itself suggests this, and it will be on the agenda of the next Senate meeting, in September.

--Endorsed a Sabbatical Leave Policy (Draft #4 of Policy #2 of the General Policy Manual of the Office of Academic Affairs), with one amendment: to strike the first sentence of Section 4.0 ("Within one semester after the faculty member returns from sabbatical leave, she/he will be expected to share through a public lecture or demonstration the findings of the leave").

--Approved proposals from the Curriculum Committee as circulated, with one change (in Biology 250, a minor correction to the original course proposal: not a substantive change). One item, a proposed change in requirements for the Marine Biology Major, was withdrawn and not acted upon. This is what was approved:

* A New Concentration and New Courses in Business Administration, Hospitality, and Tourism Management (BADM 210, 340, 345)
* New Courses in Geology (290, 314, 314L, 444); course deletions (Geology 310, 400-404)
* New Courses in Communication (240, 340)
* New Course in Economics and Finance (Econ 311)
* New Minor in Music
* New Course in Biology (BIOL 250, Special Topics (for information, the first offering will be called, "Ecology of Southern Africa").
* For information: Special Topics Course in Philosophy (PHIL 298: Clinical Bioethics)

--Endorsed a draft dated April 7, 1995 proposing a new program leading to the Master of Arts in Bioethics, to be offered jointly with the Medical University of South Carolina; this draft incorporates changes recommended to the Graduate Council by the Committee on Graduate Education, Continuing Education, and Special Programs. (At the time of the Senate meeting, this program had not yet been approved by MUSC.)
--Approved a motion to send a revised "Learning Disability Policy," proposed by the Academic Standards Committee, to the By-Laws Committee; it would replace the current section (c) on p. 139 of the Faculty/Administration Manual. [Note: the policy involves a change in the appeals procedure regarding accommodating students with learning disabilities. The policy itself, however, was not discussed and not voted on; the motion was simply to send it on to the By-Laws Committee for their recommendation and action at a later meeting.]

--Approved the draft of a policy on "Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures," incorporating four changes recommended by the Committee on Student Affairs and Athletics, as follows.

Part I, Section D (p. 1) now reads:

The liaison will not inform the accused of the complainant's allegations or the identity of the complainant without the complainant's consent. A complainant can request that the liaison communicate with the accused on behalf of the complainant. The liaison will keep all communications with both the complainant and the accused strictly confidential throughout this process and will only pursue such contacts with the accused as the complainant requests. It is recommended that the complainant record in writing all dates and times contact was made to resolve the issue.

Part II C 3 a (p. 6) now begins:

If a student elects not to seek informal resolution of his/her complaint or informal resolution is sought, but no satisfactory accord can be reached, then in either instance, the immediate supervisor [of the accused, added] will forward the written complaint to the appropriate Senior Vice President for action [etc.].

Part III A 3 (p. 9) now begins:

Negotiated Settlement: In some cases, the filing of a formal complaint and investigation may result in an opportunity to negotiate a settlement of the case [etc.].

Part III B (also p. 9) now begins:

The burden of proving the allegations of the complaint is on the complainant. In order to find the complaint to be "founded," the committee/panel/supervisor must find that the preponderance [i.e., greater than 50%, cut out] of the evidence [etc.].

--Amended and approved a proposal, from the Student Affairs Committee, to change the existing Attendance Policy (p. 114 of the College Catalogue):

If students who participate in athletic competitions or other college-sponsored events want to be assured that they are in compliance with the faculty member's attendance policy, they must provide written notification to all course instructors of dates and times when regularly scheduled classes will be missed. This notification must be provided by the first day of class; an instructor unwilling to excuse the student for such absences must notify the student before the end of Drop/Add.