MEMORANDUM

To: The Faculty
From: Bishop Hunt,
Faculty Secretary

About: Highlights of first Senate meeting

The Faculty Senate met for two hours on Tuesday, September 5. This is what took place:

-- President Sanders reported on four ideas to help the College: setting up a guaranteed tuition plan, allowing parents to "lock in" the future cost of a college education by making payments to the Foundation at today's rates; creating a three-year Accelerated Degree Program, for students who might find it advantageous to get through in a hurry; arranging for senior administrators to teach at least one course a year; and agreeing to cover the cost of retraining our graduates in education, in the unlikely event that any are found to be deficient when teaching in the South Carolina school system.

-- Susan Morrison was appointed Parliamentarian, and Amy McCandless elected Speaker pro tempore.

-- The Academic Planning Committee reported on their review of the Accelerated Degree Program, which they generally approved, subject to four conditions:

1. The program be identified as a pilot program and reviewed annually until the overall cost and benefit of the program is better understood.
2. It be made clear that the College does not recommend this program over the traditional 4-year program. To this end, all expressions in the AGP announcements, contracts, etc., that indicate that there is any prestige associated with the program should be eliminated.
3. Ensure careful screening and monitoring of students in the program.
4. Ensure that faculty will not be pressured to teach a Summer AGP course in which the enrollment is fewer than 12 students.

These criteria, the Committee said, had been discussed with President Sanders, the Provost, and the Vice-President for Enrollment Management, and were regarded by them as appropriate. The Provost, moreover, had agreed to "fund full summer school compensation no matter what the enrollment" in a particular course, when that course was needed by students in the program -- an agreement applying, of course, "only to those duly enrolled in the three year [AGP] program," and not to just "any student who needs a course for graduation."

-- Jack Parson was reappointed as delegate to SCCUFC (South Carolina Conference of University Faculty Chairs).

-- Two proposals from the Academic Standards Committee, about lists of courses designed as alternatives to the foreign-language and mathematics requirements for students in the SNAP program, were remanded, so that the Committee could engage in more extensive and perhaps more fruitful consultation with departments and faculty actually offering the courses.