THE FACULTY MINUTES

The fourth regular meeting of The Faculty of The College of Charleston convened at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 10 in the recital hall of the Albert Simons Center for the Arts, Speaker of the Faculty David Mann presiding. The Minutes of the previous meeting (March 20, 1989) were approved as circulated.

Committee Reports

For the Committee on Nominations, Robert Norton put forward a slate of candidates for Faculty Committees, as previously circulated. Mr. Norton introduced three changes: Reuben Spake was nominated to the Committee on Student Affairs and Athletics (replacing Ewa Wojcicka); for the Faculty Grievance Committee, Ewa Wojcicka was nominated to replace Reuben Spake, and Anthony Eklund (A) to replace June McDaniel (A) as alternates; June McDaniel was added as a candidate for the Judicial Board. In addition, there was one nomination from the floor: Bonnie Devet was named as an additional candidate for the Judicial Board. After these changes, the Committees nominated by the Committee on Nominations were elected severally and by acclaim. The circulated list, as amended, is attached to the Secretary's copy of the Minutes, and will be distributed again, with any further additions or changes occurring over the summer, at the beginning of the Fall Term.

Carla Lowrey was then recognized for the Faculty Welfare Committee, and introduced a Resolution having to do with the management of the State Health/Retirement Fund. During the discussion of the resolution, it was mentioned that in 1984 the Legislature had borrowed against a perceived surplus in the Fund; that Fund is substantially "in the red," partly because some sixty or seventy State employees are now victims of AIDS, and the money must be paid back in some way, although we do not know how much was actually borrowed in the first place. Alexander Ritchie introduced a minor change in wording as a friendly amendment, which was approved, and the Resolution then passed unanimously, as follows:

The faculty of the College of Charleston is very concerned about the condition of the Health/Retirement Fund. Though we recognize that health care costs are increasing, we also realize that past appropriations bills borrowed liberally from that fund. We strongly oppose any increase in deductibles and/or in employee contributions, as this effectively decreases state employee salaries.
George Pothering, for the Committee on Curriculum and Academic Planning, then began to introduce a series of four proposals concerning History, Interdisciplinary Studies, Physics, and Urban Studies. Only the first of these reached a vote; the meeting adjourned during discussion of the second item, Interdisciplinary Studies, for lack of a quorum. The complete memorandum circulated by the Committee, dated April 3 and running to some eleven pages, is attached to the Secretary's copy of the Minutes, even though no action was taken on the second, third, and fourth items. The changes in History were approved without change, except for a minor renumbering on p.4 (History 430, Research Seminar in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, corrected to History 460), and may be summarized as follows:

I. History

A. Courses Deleted

B. General Renumbering of History Courses, to reflect the degree of difficulty and specialization, according to this scheme:

   a. The general surveys are numbered in the 200s

   b. Specialized or topical courses: 300s

   c. Seminars, tutorials, and senior papers/bachelor essays: 400s

   d. Within these guidelines, courses are renumbered so that those on the same subject are grouped together:

   10, 20, 30, etc. reserved for special topics, seminars, etc.

   01-29 U.S. History
   01-09 chronological courses
   10-19 topical courses
   20-29 Low-Country and Southern

   30-59 European History
   30-39 Before 1715
   40-49 After 1715
   50-59 English and Topical

   60-89 Non-Western and "Third World"
   61-69 Latin America
   70-79 Africa and Middle East
   80-89 Asian

   [A complete list of renumbered courses follows, on pp. 2-3 of the original document.]
C. New Courses:

1. HIS 356 Georgian England (3 hrs.)

2. Division of special topics course (formerly HIS 298) and seminars (formerly HIS 398) into areas required for distribution by History majors, thus:

   - HIS 310 Special Topics in U.S. History
   - HIS 330 Special Topics in European History Before 1715
   - HIS 340 Special Topics in European History Since 1715
   - HIS 360 Special Topics in Asia, Africa, and Latin America
   - HIS 410 Research Seminar in U.S. History
   - HIS 430 Research Seminar in European History Before 1715
   - HIS 440 Research Seminar in European History Since 1715
   - HIS 460 Research Seminar in Asia, Africa, and Latin America

D. Restructuring of the Areas of Concentration:

   i. Western Civilization before 1715
   ii. Europe since 1715
   iii. Asia, Africa, and Latin America
   iv. United States

E. Changes in Prerequisites

F. Deletion of the following statement from the catalog (p. 228):

"Students who have taken Western Civilization . . . at other institutions must take History 101 . . . in order to fulfill their core curriculum requirement in history."

G. Changes in Course Descriptions (fourteen courses).

During the discussion of these proposals, Richard Godsen wanted to know what was so all-fired important about the year 1715? Clark Reynolds replied that 1715 was indeed a watershed year, a time of transition, the opening of a new era in today's modern world, and it had to do with the death of Louis XIV. Norman Olsen wished to know why the History Department referred to 'Western Civilization before 1715,' but 'Europe' since that date. After we got into the Enlightenment, Mr. Reynolds said, Europe more-or-less conquered the world. In the event, the proposed changes in History were approved.

Mr. Pothering then moved the second part of the Curriculum Committee's report, Independent Studies, asking that items A and B (proposals to add a course in Women's Studies, and for a minor in Women's Studies) be considered together. Maggie Pennington asked four questions: would all of the proposed courses for the Minor be available within a reasonable period of time, so that students could complete the program? Mr. Pothering said yes, all the courses proposed would be offered, he thought, within about a two-year period.
Have all the departments involved actually committed themselves to carrying out their share of the program? Mr. Pothering said that he thought the answer was yes. Third: only one Independent Study, according to the proposal, would count for credit toward the Minor; but how many Special Topics courses could be so counted? Finally, Mrs. Pennington asked, are there plans afoot for a Minor in Men's Studies? She found the whole proposal absurd and insulting, especially the last sentence of the "Rationale" offered ("Women's studies is especially appropriate for female students, however, since it helps them to see themselves as legitimate participants in educational and cultural processes, encourages critical reflection on their academic and personal experiences, and sensitizes them to issues they are likely to confront in their work and family lives"). Klaus DeAlbuquerque wanted to know what the content of a proposed course, listed as "WS 200 Women's Studies," would be, and added that he was bothered by some of the descriptions of the courses themselves, though not by the basic idea of the program. Michael Katuna asked who would be the general advisor or Coordinator for students engaged in the program; the answer was, Cheshire Calhoun, in the Philosophy Department. Norman Olsen commented that he found no great enthusiasm for the program in his department (English) and said that he might have trouble ensuring the availability of the English courses proposed as a component for the minor in Women's Studies. Mr. DeAlbuquerque offered a friendly amendment having to do with "critical feminist writings," but Cheshire Calhoun said that these would be of limited historical relevance, so he withdrew the amendment. Mr. Olsen proposed to amend the note on p. 7 concerning requirements for the minor, to read: "the special topics and independent studies courses must be approved by the Women's Studies Coordinator. Only one independent study and no more than two Special Topics courses will receive credit toward the minor" (the proposed amendment is underlined).

Objections to this amendment were being voiced, when Peter Rowe called for a verification of the quorum. None being detected, the meeting was adjourned, after some miscellaneous announcements, at a little after six.

Respectfully submitted,

Bishop Hunt

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Faculty Secretary