May 8, 1989

THE FACULTY MINUTES

The ninth and final regular meeting of The Faculty of The College of Charleston for the academic year 1988-1989 convened at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, May 5 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 (April 10, 1989) were approved as circulated.

Announcements

President Harry M. Lightsey, Jr. was recognized and said that he wished to thank the faculty for their contribution to an exciting and interesting year: things are looking good for the College. The Senate Finance Committee in Columbia had recently reported its version of a bill that would likely provide support for the College next year at the rate of 93.3% of "Full Formula Funding." This would probably mean for us an increase of nearly a million dollars, which Mr. Lightsey said he would like to use for new faculty positions and for pay raises, allowing, he hoped, something in addition to the 4% being provided by the State (which is nominally 4%, but since it is being "delayed" until October, really amounts to just 3%)]. These additional increases would be provided only for the faculty, and not for administrators. Secondly, Mr. Lightsey wished to report that the number of years of service needed before retirement with full benefits in the State system was being lowered from thirty to twenty-five, but there was a "catch": the rate of contributions would have to rise accordingly, from 6% to 7% of a worker's salary. He very much hoped that the College would be able to pick up the cost of that one per cent, so that the plan did not turn, in effect, into a 1% salary cut. At any rate, Mr. Lightsey said, these matters were among his highest financial priorities for the coming year, though we would all have to wait
and see what finally transpired at the end of the legislative process.

Turning to other issues, Mr. Lightsey reported that the question of the State acquiring a so-called "Super Computer" was as yet unresolved, but the faculty of the College ought, in his judgement, to have access to it if there is one. Secondly, the new degree programs in Music and Drama have received final, and the M.A. program in History tentative, approval; these, of course, are for next year. Third, the new dormitory should be open on time, but there continue to be some problems with the College Inn and the parking lot. Mr. Lightsey said that he especially wished to congratulate the Education Department, who have received full accreditation for their program and appear to be faring better than any other Education department in the State. In the fall, our Department will likely be designated a "School" of Education. This is not, Mr. Lightsey assured the faculty, a step toward reorganizing the whole College into a system of Schools rather than Departments (though he thought that might possibly be the way to go in the future); for now, the governance of the institution would remain unchanged. Finally, the President added, we were seeing a fairly sizable improvement in the SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test) scores of our entering students, and the number of applicants had also risen substantially: we have 6,000 applications for admission to next year's freshman class, a figure double that of only three years ago. To conclude, Mr. Lightsey asked if there were any questions that the faculty wished to ask. Sheila Seaman wondered about proposed changes in the State Health Insurance scheme. The President replied that nothing was final yet, but that the "deductible" would probably go up; he would keep the faculty posted.

New Business

Alexander Ritchie was recognized and moved to suspend the rules in order to allow consideration of degree candidates at this point in the meeting rather than after the Old Business still on the floor from the previous meeting. This motion was seconded and approved. Accordingly, the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Conrad Festa, moved the tentative approval of degrees for candidates named on a list previously circulated to chairmen of Departments, with the addition or deletion of several more names which he then read into the record from a supplementary list. James Hagy asked why the main list had not
been circulated to the faculty as a whole well before the meeting, as was customary. The Registrar, William Anderson, said that he had thought that the chairmen would be able to share the lists with their departments, but that we would certainly go back to doing it the other way in the future. The motion was approved. The list of names, with additions and deletions, is attached to the Secretary's copy of the Minutes.

Old Business

George Pothering was recognized for the Committee on Curriculum and Academic Planning, and resumed discussion of Norman Olsen's suggested amendment to the proposed Minor in Women's Studies (p. 7 of the Committee's memorandum of April 3), which had been under discussion at the time the April meeting was adjourned for lack of a quorum. Frank Kinard asked if we had established at that meeting that there was no procedure for constituting and regulating Minors? William Anderson, the Registrar, said that a memorandum from the department concerned is what we use at the moment; our computers cannot wholly cope with the problem of tracking students with Minors, but this will change in the near future; it can be done by "paper trail" now. Mr. Olsen's amendment, which specified that "no more than two Special Topics Courses" would receive credit toward the minor in Women's Studies, was opposed by Amy McCandless, who maintained that most departments have an adequate system for approving and ensuring the quality of special topics courses, thus rendering the amendment otiose. Put to a voice vote, the amendment to the main motion failed.

The main motion, the proposal to establish the Minor in Women's Studies, then came in for considerable discussion. Betsy Martin asked whether eighteen hours spent studying "women's roles" would really be to the competitive advantage of students facing the economic realities of our time? Richard Nunan agreed that studying the basic background in (for example) the sciences is important, but that women's studies is a legitimate and useful way of encouraging real roles for women in today's modern world. Julian Harrison asked if there were any evidence to suggest that women were not going into the sciences in adequate numbers as it is. David Cohen (in Fine Arts) said that the only real question
should be, is the Minor a legitimate one? Cheshire Calhoun then presented as an amendment to the main motion a revised course description for WS 200, Women's Studies:

A survey of the interdisciplinary and multicultural field of women's studies. The course will trace the conceptual tradition of contemporary feminist writing by examining key literature of the past two centuries which has critically addressed women's condition.

Mr. Olsen asked if the amendment was in order; the chair ruled that it was. Kem Fronabarger asked if someone could define "feminist" literature? Amy McCandless suggested that it implied writing that recognizes women's experience as being unique. Frank Kinard commented that the new description does not seem to match our objective of serving all the students at the College. George Hopkins suggested that we should let the women themselves decide that question. Faye Steuer said that surely the proposed Minor is not intended only for women students. Mr. Fronabarger said bluntly that he feared the program was in itself a "sexist" undertaking and openly "against men." Klaus DeAlbuquerque replied that the reason for rewriting the course description was to clarify it, and that much of the feminist literature referred to was actually written about women by men. Mrs. McCandless added that she did not think studying the gender discriminations of the past taught hatred of men in the present. Sheila Seaman said that women need to understand the past in order to have self-confidence for the future. Peter McCandless noted that his wife still liked him after twenty years, feminist though she be. Andrew Lewis, speaking in favor of the amendment, pleaded that students at least be given a chance to understand these matters; they should not be shut out by a refusal to try the program. Maggie Pennington replied that students already have ample opportunity to learn about such matters without a Minor being institutionalized in "Women's Studies." Peter Rowe called for the question on the amendment. The amendment to the main motion passed, returning the main motion (Section II of the memorandum of April 3, "Interdisciplinary Studies") to the center of discussion. There were a few more questions. Richard Godsen asked what the ratio of women to men is at the College; Dr. Festa said it was about sixty-to-forty. Beverley DIamond called for the question on the main motion, successfully. Mrs. Pennington called for a secret ballot; her call was seconded by Mr.
Fronabarger, but denied by the faculty on a voice vote. In the event, the main motion passed, adding WS 200: Women's Studies (3), and a Minor in Women's Studies, to the curriculum.

Mr. Pothering then moved further curricular changes, in Physics and Urban Studies, as detailed in Parts III and IV of the memorandum of April 3, and renumbered Parts II and III in the more recent memorandum (April 28) circulated before the May meeting. These changes (using the later numeration) were approved, after a successful amendment was put forward for the proposal in Urban Studies, and may be summarized as follows. (The amendment was to add Economics 318, Macroeconomic Analysis, to the list of electives in Urban Planning and Administration.)

II. PHYSICS

A. Change in Requirements for the Degree, Bachelor of Science in Physics

B. Change in Course Prerequisite for Engineering 205

C. Addition of a Concentration, and Two Minors, to the Physics Curriculum

III. URBAN STUDIES

Restructuring of the areas of concentration in the Urban Studies Major:

"Urban Planning and Administration" (21 hrs.)

A. Core Curriculum
B. Electives

"Urban Policy and Social Problems" (21 hrs.)

A. Core Courses
B. Electives

The several memoranda from the Curriculum Committee detailing these changes are attached to the Secretary's copy of the Minutes.
More New Business

Susan Morrison, for the Committee on Academic Standards, Admissions, and Financial Assistance, presented two revised versions of existing policies. The new versions read:

I. Policy on Auditing Courses (p. 34 of the College Bulletin):

Persons wishing to audit regular academic courses at the College must pay special course fees and per credit hour costs. Persons 60 years of age or older pay no tuition but do pay a nominal fee.

Permission to audit a regular academic course must be received from the instructor teaching the course. This authorization will be given after late registration has been completed and only if there is a seat available in the class. An audit must be declared no later than the end of the drop-add period; a student may switch from grade to audit status or audit to grade status only within the drop-add period.

An Audit will be recorded on a student's permanent record at the College. Faculty may set attendance and/or other requirements for audit students; an audit may be revoked if the student does not comply with these requirements.

II. Statute of Limitations on Grade Changes (insert on p. 357 of College Bulletin as last paragraph of section on "Grading System"):

The statute of limitations for grade changes is two calendar years from the original grade submission deadline for the faculty. After this period of time has elapsed, normally no grade issued to a student may be changed. Requests for any change of grade should be initiated by the faculty member who assigned the grade. All requests must be adequately documented.

Andrew Lewis asked if these policies would take effect immediately, and the answer was yes. Both were approved. (During the presentation, Malcolm Clark served as Parliamentarian pro tempore.)
The Chair once again called on George Pothering, who introduced further motions on behalf of the Curriculum Committee. In the event, and after some discussion, the proposals all passed; they may be summarized as follows:

IV. FRESHMAN SEMINAR

(Continuation of the pilot program FRS 101 for another year.)

V. LANGUAGES

A. New Courses:

JAP 101, 102 Elementary Japanese (3, 3)
JAP 201, 202 Intermediate Japanese (3, 3)

B. Changes in Course Numbers, Titles, and Descriptions

(Largely concerned with "Intensive" versions of elementary and intermediate courses in French, Latin, German, and Spanish.)

VI. PHILOSOPHY

A. New Courses:

PHL 155 Environmental Ethics (3)
PHL 185 Philosophy and Film (3)
PHL 275 Feminist Theory (3)
PHL 330 Philosophy of Mind (3)

B. Change in Course Prerequisite

C. Change of Course Number (PHL 110, Nature, Technology, and Society, becomes PHL 150)

VII. MATHEMATICS

A. Course Deletion (MAT 139)

B. Course Changes
C. Change in the Requirements for Mathematics Minor

VIII. ENGLISH

A. Course Deletion (ENG 100)

B. Change in Credit Hours (ENG 230)

IX. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND ECONOMICS

(Several changes in prerequisite and title.)

There was some discussion of the new courses in Philosophy (under section VI, above), especially "Philosophy and Film." Nan Morrison wished to know how the title was to be interpreted; Hugh Wilder said the course would deal with philosophical issues as they are raised in film, as well as with philosophical questions about the nature of the art of film. Caroline Hunt said that in recommending the course, the Curriculum Committee must not have been aware of the English Department's objections to it, and she moved that it be returned for further study (the motion failed). Mr. Pothering said the Curriculum Committee had indeed not known about the English Department's objections; Clark Reynolds asked what they were. Norman Olsen replied that the English Department thought the title was unclear, as Mrs. Morrison had suggested, and that the course to some extent duplicated an existing course in English. In the event, the course was approved, along with all items proposed by the Curriculum Committee, and their memorandum of April 28 detailing their proposals is attached to the Secretary's copy of the Minutes.

After some miscellaneous announcements -- and the happy news that Klaus DeAlbuquerque had won a Fulbright -- the meeting adjourned at the request of William Bischoff.

Respectfully submitted,

Bishop Hunt,
Faculty Secretary