January 17, 1995

MINUTES OF THE FACULTY SENATE

The fifth regular meeting of the Faculty Senate of The College of Charleston for the academic year 1994-1995 convened at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 17 in Room 118 of The Education Center, Speaker of the Faculty David Mann presiding. Forty-six senators attended. The Minutes of the previous meeting (November 29) were approved as circulated.

The Speaker reported that there would be an open meeting of the Trustees on January 18 and urged members of the Senate and all interested faculty to attend. He also mentioned that there would be a conference on publishing, to be held at the Lightsey Center in late February.

New Business

Liz Martinez, for the Student Affairs and Athletics Committee, proposed a class attendance policy for students who officially represent the College, to be inserted on p. 114 of the Bulletin:

Absences due to officially approved representation of the College of Charleston, such as athletic teams and student congresses, will not result in a grade penalty for the student.

Frank Kinard objected, saying that absences may well lead to lower grades, and legitimately so, if a student does not make up work missed by "representing the College." Dean William Lindstrom said the statement should perhaps include something about no "direct" penalties for such activities. Enrique Graf thought that taking part in artistic "performances," such as concerts or plays, should also be exempted, and suggested adding this word. Joe Bennich wanted the proposal to make clear that students are responsible for making up any work missed through such participation. Lynne Ford wanted to know what "official" meant; who decides what events are "official" or otherwise? Caroline Hunt said that in its present form the proposal seems to imply that athletics, student meetings, concerts, plays, and so on, come before academics at the College, and that this is precisely the wrong message to send. Now, as in the past, if extra-curricular activities cause problems, students should learn to work around those problems; the faculty should not be expected to work around the student. The notion that the faculty should routinely be expected to give priority to matters other than academic seemed, she said, to be gradually gaining acceptance, and represented a creeping mentality that the Senate could do something to put a stop to, while still protecting students from being arbitrarily penalized. She moved to remand the proposal to committee, saying that an open forum on the subject might be a good idea. Hugh Haynsworth supported the motion to remand, but added, as a friendly amendment, that the Student Affairs and Athletics Committee should be directed to meet with the Academic Affairs Committee in order to work out a joint proposal. The motion to remand, as amended, passed unanimously.
For the Curriculum Committee, Wayne Jordan moved four proposals, as circulated to the Senate in a memorandum of January 4, 1995. These may be abbreviated as follows:

1. A NEW INTERDISCIPLINARY MINOR IN PRE-ACTUARIAL STUDIES (Department of Mathematics/Department of Economics and Finance)

2. RE-FORM IN THE SOCIOLOGY MAJOR PROGRAM [see summary below]

3. CLARIFICATION OF SCIENCE REQUIREMENT IN THE COMPUTER SCIENCE (BS) MAJOR AND CHANGE OF PREREQUISITES FOR CSCI 350 [not passed]

4. NEW COURSES IN ELEMENTARY AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

   EDEE 465: Independent Study in Education (1-3hrs.)

   EDEE 580: Special Topics in Education (1-3)

During the brief discussion, Frank Kinard wanted to know, in reference to the first item, how many students would be likely to pursue "Pre-Actuarial Studies"? Richard Norton said that at the moment there were two or three; if it became a recognized Minor, there might be four or five. Proposals 1, 2, and 4 passed, on a voice vote. The third proposal, in Computer science, received more attention, since there seemed to be some question about which courses could be counted among the "two (2) additional courses chosen from other science courses which satisfy BACHELOR OF SCIENCE requirements in Physics, Biology, Marine Biology, Chemistry, Biochemistry, or Geology." Phil Dustan wanted to remove "Marine Biology" from the list, and this was accepted as a friendly amendment. Caroline Hunt said that the Computer Science Department ought to supply a specific list of courses that it accepts or rejects, rather than trying to cover the matter in a single, general sentence. In the event, the third proposal was turned down, on a unanimous voice vote. At the meeting Mr. Jordan circulated a useful Addendum to the Committee's report, which may be reproduced here. All of the original documents are attached to the Secretary's copy of the Minutes.

Summary of Changes in Sociology Program

- Total hours of required courses increases from 33 to 34.
- Math 104 or equivalent required of all majors.
- SOCY 202 and two new courses, SOCY 271 (Intro to Social Research) and SOCY 491 (Soc Colloquium), are required of all majors. Special Topics required discontinued.
- More definite requirements for the Minor: SOCY 101, 202, 260, 271 and two courses at 300 level.
- Changes in title or number or definition of SOCY 205, 206, 231, 352, 358, 371.
- The following inserted as Prerequisites for SOCY 360 and 371: SOCY 101, 202, 260, and 271.
- The following inserted as Prerequisites for all courses numbered in the 330s, 340s, and 350s: SOCY 101 and 200-level SOCY course.
- The following inserted as Prerequisite for all 300 level courses:
  - For non-majors, written permission from the instructor is required if other prerequisites are not met.
- SOCY 252 is dropped, its content to be taught in SOCY 352: Population and Society.
**Report**

Most of the remainder of the meeting was taken up by a report on faculty salaries, presented by Arthur Felts, with the assistance of Janet Key, prepared by the Institute for Public Affairs and Policy Studies. The Provost, Conrad Festa, said that the study had taken a year to complete, and was based on questionnaires sent to a group of "peer institutions," some of which, despite assurances of confidentiality, had declined to participate. He himself had reviewed the data very carefully. The study revealed a "significant problem" with salary compression -- that is, with salaries falling gradually farther and farther behind over a period of years -- especially at the Full Professor level. There were, Mr. Festa added, some small problems elsewhere, but nothing of outstanding concern, the College is reasonably competitive with other comparable institutions, both regionally and locally.

Mr. Felts proceeded to introduce a series of nineteen overhead projections, containing graphic displays of statistics derived from running a "regression analysis" on the data received. The purpose of this, he said, was to attempt to measure actual College of Charleston faculty salaries against what they might reasonably be expected to be, when compared with salaries at other institutions, taking into account considerations of faculty rank, gender, years of service, academic department, and so on. Owing, doubtless, to the extremely sensitive nature of the subject, no supporting documents of any kind were circulated to the Senate, and no copies of the documents briefly displayed on the overhead projector were forthcoming, either for inclusion in, or attachment to, the Minutes. The presentation, therefore, must remain effectively "off the record." Mr. Felts concluded, however, that on the whole "we are doing pretty well."

**Constituents' Concerns**

Beverly Diamond asked senators please to remind their colleagues to return their requests for committee assignments. Mr. Mann noted that there will be a report on Phi Beta Kappa at the next meeting. Hugh Haynsworth pointed out that this year's "drop-add" period had been extended to five days, with a good deal of resulting confusion. It ought to be cut to three days next time.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at about 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Signature*

Bishop Hunt,
Faculty Secretary