October 1, 1996

MINUTES OF THE FACULTY SENATE

The second regular meeting of the Faculty Senate of the College of Charleston convened at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 1 in Room 100 of Maybank Hall, Speaker of the Faculty Robert Mignone presiding. Forty-four senators attended. Minutes of the September 3 meeting were approved.

Reports

The Speaker

Responding to a question raised at the September 3 meeting, Mr. Mignone reported that faculty members have general tort liability coverage up to one million dollars.

The Speaker then turned to Performance Funding and reported that measures for the 37 performance indicators have now been established and accepted by the Steering Committee for Performance Funding. Mr. Mignone focused particularly on the “Post-tenure review for tenured faculty” indicator and the “Best Practices” document that is to be used in designing these reviews. This document specifies that post-tenure reviews are to be conducted at intervals of no more than six years and that each institution must link favorable reviews to a system of faculty rewards. Also, a development process and an appeals procedure must be in place for those who receive an unsatisfactory review.

When asked how this new post-tenure review differs from the current annual evaluation, Mr. Mignone pointed out that, unlike the current one-on-one annual evaluation with the department chair, the post-tenure review will be institution-wide and will require external evaluations. He stressed the fact that individual institutions, not CHE, will set the guidelines for the reviews. Also, because our current promotion procedures satisfy the “Best Practices” document, an evaluation for promotion to associate or full professor can count as a post-tenure review. In effect, then, with the new system faculty members might have only two additional reviews during their time at the College.

Mr. Mignone suggested that some of the performance indicators can be beneficial to the us and pointed as an example to the “Compensation of faculty indicator,” which is to be measured by national, not regional standards.
The Speaker closed his report by noting that the next step in the process is establishing weights and benchmarks for each of the performance indicators and urge faculty and administrators to become involved in that process.

New Business

* The Committee on Nominations and Elections conducted two elections with the following results:
  - At-Large Senators: Jim Smiley and Mary Beth Heston
  - Faculty Advisory Committee to the President: John Fauth

* Lee Lindner introduced six motions from the Curriculum Committee, all of which passed as circulated.

1. THEATRE
   - Course Change: Change in course title of THTR 231 from “Children’s Theatre” to “Theatre for Youth”

2. CHEMISTRY AND BIOCHEMISTRY
   - Course Change: CHEM 491 Chemistry Seminar. New course description allows a student to repeat the course once for credit and changes the prerequisite to either junior or senior status

3. PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY
   - Minor in Meteorology
   - Concentration in Meteorology for physics and astronomy majors

4. GEOLOGY
   - New Course: GEOL 206 Planetary Geology (3)

5. PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH
   - New Course: PEHD 133 Intermediate Horseback Riding (3)

Constituents’ Concerns

Hugh Haynsworth announced that copies of the SACS Report are available in the faculty lounge and that Maggie Pennington has agreed to chair the Self-Study Implementation Committee. All comments about the SACS and Self-Study Reports should be sent to her.

William Gudger and Andy Lewis pointed out that all Music and PEHD courses (and some Math courses) were mistakenly omitted from the Schedule of Courses for spring
semester. [Note: A three-page addendum listing all of the missing courses is being circulated with the course schedule.] Bishop Hunt wanted to know what steps are being taken to ensure that such an error does not recur.

Ken Bower asked why our raises do not go into effect until October when our contracts begin in August.

Dinesh Sarvate cited some cases of mathematical illiteracy he sees in his 100-level math courses and expressed concern about the preparation of our students for college-level work, especially now that the College can no longer offer remedial courses.

Bill Olejniczak asked about the Provost’s request for help with tenure and promotion reviews. The Speaker said that the matter has been referred to the Promotion and Tenure Committee, which will make recommendations in the spring.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Haney
Faculty Secretary