February 4, 1997

MINUTES OF THE FACULTY SENATE

The sixth regular meeting of the Faculty Senate of the College of Charleston convened at 5:05 p.m. on Tuesday, February 4 in Room 100 of Maybank Hall, Speaker of the Faculty Robert Mignone presiding. Forty-four senators attended. Minutes of the January 14 meeting were approved.

Reports

Mr. Mignone thanked the Senate and the Faculty for their support and expressions of sympathy. There are, he said, no new developments in performance funding since Jack Parson’s report at the January meeting. CHE is currently studying weights, benchmarks, and base funding. [Note: In the January issue of The Faculty Newsletter the Speaker discusses reasons for the delay in the Steering Committee’s forwarding recommendations for weights and benchmarks to CHE.]

Skip Godow reported that the North Area campus, which opened in the fall of 1990 with 38 students, grew by the fall of 1996 to 485 students, most of whom are juniors and 90% of whom intend to complete a degree at the College. Plans are to expand both course offerings and student services. In answer to senators’ questions, Mr. Godow made the following statements:

* The 19 faculty currently teaching at the North Area Campus (3 roster, 16 adjunct) are chosen by department chairs.
* FTE allocations for students enrolled in courses in the North Area are similar to those for honors courses.
* Eventually offering a four-year program (not including science labs) at the North Area campus is a desirable goal because there is a population currently not being served by times and location of courses on the main campus.
* The North Area campus is self-sustaining and profitable.

Sue Sommer-Kresse added that the North Area campus helps the College by increasing revenues without adding more students to the main campus and by meeting the needs of students, especially adult students.
New Business

Lee Lindner introduced five motions from the Curriculum Committee. All five motions passed.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

* Course change (title, catalog description, prerequisite): BADM 350 from Tourism to Hospitality and Tourism Marketing (Add BADM 350 to BADM 210 as prerequisite)

* Course change (title and catalog description): BADM 210 from Introduction to the Hospitality Industry to Principles and Practices in Hospitality and Tourism

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATIONS AND SPECIALIZATIONS

* Course change: (Credit hours) EDFS 470 Independent Study from three (3) semester hours to variable credit (1-3 semester hours)

ELEMENTARY AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

* New Course: EDEE 433 Early Adolescent Students and Their Teachers (3)

POLITICAL SCIENCE

* New course: POLS 405 Capstone Seminar (3)

Constituents' Concerns

Michael Finefrock brought to the Senate a matter he thought had not been satisfactorily resolved by the Faculty Welfare Committee: Dean Lindstrom changed a grade from a WA to a W. Although the Faculty Welfare Committee ruled that only a faculty member has the right to change a grade, the committee referred Mr. Finefrock’s case to the Hearing Committee. Because there was no specific denial of his academic freedom, Mr. Finefrock does not think his case falls under the purview of the Hearing Committee. Mr. Lindstrom replied that he disagrees with Mr. Finefrock on the case, that he was never called to appear before the Faculty Welfare Committee, and that he is ready to defend himself in a proper forum.

Deanna Caveny pointed out that there is a conflict between students’ rights in the Student Handbook and faculty rights in the Faculty/Administration Manual as they pertain to W and WA grades. This ambiguity, Bill Anderson added, needs to be addressed.

Joe Benich remarked that it would be unwise for the Senate to set a precedent in dealing with an individual case; there is, he said a committee structure to deal with such cases. Although Mr. Finefrock emphasized that his case had already gone to a committee, following recommendations from Hugh Wilder, Ken Bower, and Caroline Hunt, the Speaker referred the matter of the W and WA grades to the Academic Standards Committee and Mr. Finefrock’s specific case to the Grievance Committee.
Speaking for the Academic Planning Committee, Fran Courson asked Bill Anderson to update the Senate on new technology. The Cougar Trail, he said, is improving, and this spring mid-term grades will be available on-line in time for advising.

Debbie Miller announced that the fall course schedule includes the new acronym for Health courses—HEAL, not PEHD—to distinguish them from activity courses, only four of which can count toward graduation. She also brought up a concern from her department about inequity in summer school pay. Professors who teach four-credit science courses with a lab are paid at 15% while those teaching four-credit PEHD courses with a lab receive only 10%.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Haney
Faculty Secretary