October 6, 1998

MINUTES OF THE FACULTY SENATE

The second regular meeting of the Faculty Senate of the College of Charleston convened at 5:02 p.m. on Tuesday, October 6, in Maybank 100, Speaker of the Faculty Trisha Folds-Bennett presiding. Fifty senators attended. Minutes of the September 1 meeting were approved.

Reports

The Speaker

Ms. Folds-Bennett reported progress on the Senate web page, which will soon include pictures of senators as well as lists of committees and committee chairs. Plans are also being made to post course proposals and supporting documents submitted to the Curriculum Committee. She reminded senators and all faculty of the questionnaire soliciting input about the new library and announced that she will report on strategic planning at the next Senate meeting.

The Speaker thanked Bob Mignone for his willingness to continue representing the College at CHE during discussions of performance funding. Mr. Mignone also chairs the Council of South Carolina University Chairs.

At the end of her report, the Speaker made two recommendations:

1. That the second of two items approved by the Senate last year be added to the course evaluation forms. [The first item, suggested by CHE, about the availability of faculty to students outside the classroom was added to the forms; however, an additional question asking how often the student made an appointment or went to the instructor’s office during office hours was not included.] Redesigning the forms will cost approximately $1,000 to be paid by the Office of Educational Services. Since 44,000 forms have already been printed for fall semester, the redesigned form would not be used until spring semester. After Andy Lewis, Deanna McBroom, and Phil Dustan questioned the value of the additional question, John Newell moved to remand the item to the Faculty Welfare Committee for further review. The motion passed.
2. That the By-Laws Committee clarify phrasing in the *Faculty/Administration Manual* about counting years of service to determine eligibility to serve on the Senate or committees.

**Ad-Hoc Committee on Post-Tenure Review**

Richard Nunan, chair of the 1997-98 Ad-Hoc Committee, reported that the Committee’s proposal and the Provost’s response are being reviewed by the Faculty Welfare Committee in consultation with Mr. Nunan, former Speaker Bob Mignone, and Associate Provost David Cohen. The Faculty Welfare Committee will submit a revised proposal to the Senate, which, if approved, will be reviewed by the Office of Academic Affairs and returned to the Senate before being sent to the Provost for final approval.

Mr. Nunan listed the following points of contention the Provost had with the Committee’s proposal:

- Applying *Faculty/Administration Manual* standards may eliminate from eligibility for a superior rating deserving faculty, such as those who excel in teaching and service but do not meet promotion standards for research or those tenured at the assistant or associate professor level who are not eligible for promotion.
- The proposal does not involve departments, chairs, deans, the Provost, and the President.
- The Provost cannot guarantee monetary rewards specified in the proposal.
- Only administrators who hold faculty rank and who teach should be evaluated by the post-tenure review process.

**Ad-Hoc Committee on General Education**

Lynne Ford reviewed the Committee’s charge and progress to date.

**Year One** (1996-97): Following a forum in August, inquiry groups met during fall semester to discuss the question "What is the nature of an educated person?" and to set goals for a GenEd program that would produce such an educated person. After a January forum, inquiry groups reviewed current programs using these goals, and the Senate endorsed in principle a draft version of the goals.

**Year Two** (1997-98): A forum in September included representatives from Miami U. of Ohio, Portland State U., and James Madison U., who gave presentations on GenEd programs at those institutions. Five inquiry groups were formed and charged with developing a framework for GenEd at the College to achieve the GenEd goals. In March proposals from the five groups were presented in written and poster form followed by a series of open meetings and forums.
Year Three (1998-99): After meeting during the summer to synthesize the five proposals, the Ad-Hoc Committee sponsored an August retreat during which it presented a comprehensive proposal for discussion. At the end of October, the Committee will present revisions to the proposal addressing concerns raised at the retreat and will hold three forums. In November the Committee will revise the proposal one more time and will begin meeting with departments and chairs to develop models of how the GenEd program would impact their majors. These models will be disseminated as attachments to the proposal. At the November meeting of the Senate, the Committee will forward a motion recommending a process for deliberation and action on the proposal, suggesting that one meeting be devoted to a discussion of the proposal with a vote taken at a subsequent meeting.

Future: If the proposal is accepted, the Ad-Hoc Committee envisions a two-year time period to allow courses and procedures to be developed, making 2001-02 the first year a new General Education program would be in place.

Ad-Hoc Committee on Teaching Portfolios and Peer Evaluation of Teaching

Chair George Pothering reviewed the Committee’s charge to review/amend/endorse the recommendations from the deans to use portfolios and peer evaluations in the evaluation process. The Committee has been meeting since February reviewing the literature and drafting a proposal. Mr. Pothering said that the Committee plans to hold a forum in early January to present a proposal, which it will revise and present to the Senate in February or March. Phil Duskin asked if these recommendations would not add to faculty workload, and discussion focused on the portfolio. Mr. Pothering suggested that a portfolio would reduce in volume the amount of material currently being submitted in packets.

New Business

• For the Curriculum Committee, Chris Abate moved the adoption of one new course. The motion passed.

HISTORY

• New Course: HIST 333 Witches, Saints, and Heretics in Medieval and Early Modern Europe (3)

FOR INFORMATION: SPECIAL TOPICS COURSE

• PHYS 412 Photophysics Journal Club (1)
The Committee on Nominations and Elections conducted an election to fill a vacancy on the Budget Committee. Talat Elshazly was elected.

Committee chair Frank Kinard announced that Anna Kraith (French) and Marsha Hass (Accounting/Legal Studies) had been nominated as alternates to the Committee on Tenure, Promotion, and Third-Year Review and that an at-large senator will be elected by mail ballot.

Constituents’ Concerns

Jack Parson, Director of International Studies, addressed an issue raised at the September meeting of the Senate about changes in the International Studies minor appearing in the 1998-99 Undergraduate Catalog. He pointed out that the required core courses of INST 100 and INST 200 were never taught as such but were always cross-listed as POSC 103 and 200. When the Political Science Department reformed the major, changes in curriculum affected those two courses plus the third core course, POSC 261.

To accommodate those changes, POLS 103 and POLS 360 replaced POSC 103 and POSC 360 as equivalent courses. However, the elimination of POSC 200 (Problems of the Third World) from the curriculum led to the following substitution satisfy one of the three core courses for the minor: “POLS 104 World Geography or one of the introductory international interdisciplinary non-western courses such as AFST 101 Introduction to African Civilization”

Because of incremental changes over the past few years, both the 1997-98 and 1998-99 catalogues included a statement that requirements for the minor are under review. Mr. Parson acknowledged a “curriculum creep” not approved by the Curriculum Committee or the Senate and announced two steps to address this problem: (1) he will suspend new enrollment in the minor until the curriculum Committee and the Senate have reconsidered the requirements; (2) he will convene a working party of faculty involved in the minor to make recommendations to the Curriculum Committee and the Senate about the minor and its requirements.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectful submitted,

Kathy Haney
Faculty Secretary