April 28, 1999

THE FACULTY MINUTES
(Special Session)

A special meeting of the Faculty of the College of Charleston was called to review Senate vote in favor of the Revised Proposal for a General Education Curriculum. The meeting convened at 5:10 p.m. in the Lightsey Conference Center when a quorum was affirmed with 217 roster faculty in attendance. Speaker of the Faculty Trisha Folds-Bennett presided.

The Speaker ruled in order David Mann’s motion that faculty who had classes scheduled during the time of the meeting could vote on the proposal, and she explained the means by which these faculty would be called to the floor when the vote was to be taken.

Ms. Folds-Bennett thanked all faculty who participated over the years in the discussions of general education. She then singled out for special recognition the Ad Hoc Committee for General Education, whose years of work culminated in the Proposal for a General Education Curriculum at the College of Charleston, and the standing committees that worked on the revision of the proposal—Academic Planning, Assessment, Budget, Curriculum, and Welfare—as well as members of the Senate who debated and amended the proposal.

- William Gudger moved to table the proposal. When the Parliamentarian ruled that a motion to table would mean deferring to the Senate action (approval of the proposal), Mr. Gudger withdrew his motion.

- Pointing to the many amendments already debated by the Senate, John Newell, moved that the General Education Proposal as approved by the Senate be affirmed. The motion was ruled out of order by the Parliamentarian. According to the By-Laws, the faculty can only amend or veto Senate actions.

- Jim Deavor moved that the following sentence be inserted on p. 14 after the last sentence under “Existing Course Review”:

  Existing gateway courses or sequences (introductory courses that are prerequisites for upper level courses) for majors and cognates for majors shall automatically count towards meeting General Education requirements.
Speaking in favor of the motion, Sam Hines claimed that the phrasing in Mr. Deavor’s motion would remove from the proposal a major objection of many faculty in the sciences. However, Richard Nunan noted that this amendment would apply to courses like ACCT 203, for example, and he argued that the intent of the GenEd proposal is to give students exposure to courses in Liberal Arts. Arch McCallum offered as a friendly amendment (accepted as such by Mr. Deavor) that the motion apply only to courses satisfying existing general education requirements. Lynne Ford spoke against the motion, asserting that the Revised Proposal for a General Education Curriculum approved by the Senate does not rely on any existing courses and that all courses must be reviewed according to the principles of general education outlined in the proposal. The motion was defeated.

- John Newell moved to veto the Senate action to accept the Revised Proposal for General Education.

After a call for the question carried, the Speaker declared a recess so that faculty in class could be called to the floor for the vote.

When the meeting resumed, the Speaker ruled that no motions to amend would be in order after the vote was taken. Richard Nunan moved to appeal the Chair’s decision, arguing that the Chair’s earlier statements led the faculty to believe that amendments would be in order after the vote. The motion to appeal the Chair’s decision failed by a vote of 127 to 96.

A call for a secret ballot was approved, and the balloting was conducted by the Committee on Nominations and Elections,

- The motion to VETO the Senate’s decision in favor of the Revised Proposal for a General Education Curriculum PASSED by a vote of 131-127.

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]
Kathy Haney
Faculty Secretary