Faculty Chairs Meet in Columbia
by Jack Parson

The Conference of South Carolina University Faculty Chairs held a meeting on January 14 in Columbia. The meeting had three important agenda items. First, we spent about forty minutes with Fred Sheheen discussing the relationship between the Conference and the CHE. Sheheen concluded with a commitment to send our CHE liaison committee all the documentation which goes to CHE committees. We can have input at that level before proposals go to the full Commission. Mr. Sheheen seemed anxious to provide a process for meaningful input by faculty members. His enthusiasm for working with faculty seemed to many of us related to the impending debate over the composition and functions of the CHE and therefore his role therein. The conference sought clarification on the extent to which he and the CHE were active advocates for higher education. Mr. Sheheen expressed the view that advocacy without simultaneously a comprehensive program of accountability would reduce the credibility of any governance structure.

The second agenda item was discussion and approval for three one-page statements by the Conference for public and legislative consumption on issues affecting higher education. These were statements on the direction of higher education in South Carolina, the current crisis in public higher education in South Carolina, and the value of public higher education to the people of South Carolina. Copies of the full statements are available from either David Mann or Jack Parson, your representatives to the Conference; excerpts appear on pages three and four.

The final item on the agenda was the division of labor among members to meet with key public figures in the months ahead to present the position of the Conference and advocate for higher education. Meetings are proposed with key legislators and others timed to be effective in relation to the legislative calendar.

South Carolina General Assembly
is in Session--Hear Ye!

Should you be interested in doing so, write your legislator (we heartily recommend it). Tell him/her your views about funding higher education in South Carolina. Below is a partial list of names and addresses of the Charleston Legislative Delegation:

Sen. Ernest Passalaigue
601 Gressette Building
Columbia, SC 29202

Rep. Harry M. Hallman
320B Blatt Building
Columbia, SC 29211

Sen. Glenn McConnell
613 Gressette Building
Columbia, SC 29202

Rep. Robert A. Barber
530D Blatt Building
Columbia, SC 29211

Rep. James J. Bailey
204A Blatt Building
Columbia, SC 29211

Rep. Ron Fulmer
320C Blatt Building
Columbia, SC 29211

Rep. Lucille Whipper
328C Blatt Building
Columbia, SC 29211

Faculty Senate Meeting
Tuesday, February 1st
5:00 pm
ECTR 116
(new location)

agenda includes:
1. Information on class schedule deadlines from Mr. William Anderson, registrar
2. "No Smoking" resolution from Faculty Welfare
3. Senate, Secretary, and Speaker nominations
4. Curriculum Committee New Business
5. Constituent's Concern: Discussion on College Calendar
**SIS System Training Schedule**

Student Information System (SIS) training classes will be held during February. Included in the training is information on: student schedules, addresses, class lists, course section information, and student transcript information for advisors.

**Training Schedule:**
- Feb 9: 3 - 5 pm
- Feb 11: 9 - 11 am
- Feb 22: 11 am - 1 pm
- Feb 24: 1 - 3 pm

Class space is limited. Contact Cathie Cope (3-5668 or e-mail COPEC) for registration information.

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**Deferred Compensation Plan Meetings**

Feb. 8th, SSC 412  
9, 10, and 11 am  
1, 2, and 2:45 pm

Contact Andria Stevens, 3-5512 by February 4th to reserve space at your favorite meeting time

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**Letters**

--Dear Sir/Madam:

Enclosed please find a copy of the doctor I saw this morning for strep throat. Please note that it shows that I was ill on January 26 from --- to ---, therefore I missed my --- class last night.

--To: Dean of Undergraduate Studies:

I am applying for a summer internship at the ---. As part of the application packet, I need a letter stating that I am a student in good academic standing and am currently enrolled full time in a sealed envelope, signed and dated on the back flap.

--To: Dean Lindstrom:

Due to a sustained injury outside of class, --- was absent an excessive amount of time. (Note: this was written on department letterhead.)

*Thanks to Bill Lindstrom; identifying marks were deliberately omitted.*

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**College Board of Trustees Meets in February**

**Tuesday, Feb. 15th:**

2:30 pm  Academic Affairs Committee  
Dr. Festa's Office  
Facilities Committee  
Blacklock House  
Finance Committee  
President's Board Room  
Student Affairs & Athletics Committee  
Sottile House Conference Room

For the above meetings, relevant faculty committee members are urged to attend--these are open meetings

**Wednesday, Feb. 16th:**

9:30 am  Board of Trustees Meeting  
President's Board Room
Crisis in Public Higher Education in South Carolina*

... Today, we are out of line with our sister schools in the South. The average semester tuition for four-year state schools in South Carolina today is $1405, whereas tuition at the University of Georgia is $1125, and tuition at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is $727 per semester. . . .

At the heart of the problem for higher education in South Carolina is declining state appropriations. Three years ago appropriations for state supported schools declined to 87.7% of the formula; two years ago they declined to 74%; last year they were 70.4%; this year they are 68%. . . . *see note, p. 4, col. 1

C of C Athletes in "Cities in Schools" Program
by Bobbin Huff, College Relations

Students in the Septima Clark Academy spent a day at the College of Charleston recently at the invitation of the college's Department of Athletics. Students were matched with volunteers from the department as part of the College's partnership with the Cities in Schools program. The students were assigned to individual athletes who took them to their classes, ate lunch with them and then took them for a tour of the campus. Later that night and the following Saturday, the youngsters were invited to attend basketball games at the College.

The goal was to provide mentors and role models for these youngsters. "We were looking for some way to become involved in the community," said Otto German, Department of Athletics athletic compliance coordinator. "The idea was to get involved with kids who are not as fortunate as athletes at the College--to let the kids know that, with a lot of hard work, they will be able to reach goals like our athletes have. We also wanted to show them that college is not just grades and classes--that they will be gaining skills that will help them succeed in life. We hope that in the future, they will be inspired to go to college and go on to greater things.

"What we hope to develop is an extended relationship between the College and Cities in Schools Program," said German. He added that as a result of the day's activities, the College of Charleston students have decided to pursue a Big Brother/Big Sister connection with these youngsters.

The Gorgeous Blessing
by Alex Sanders, President

Mike Pincus recently let me borrow a book the Charleston County Public Library let him borrow. It is entitled Alma Mater, A College Homecoming. It's author is the novelist and Wall Street Journal columnist P. F. Kluge. In the book, Mr. Kluge describes his experiences upon returning to teach creative writing at his alma mater, Kenyon College. As you probably know, Kenyon is a well-respected -- but not necessarily top-ranked -- liberal arts college in Ohio. Although it is a private school with a much smaller student body, in many ways Kenyon is quite similar to the College of Charleston. Somewhere near the end of the book, Mr. Kluge makes a rambling series of observations about his alma mater.

"I can't stop imagining how much better we could be if we asked more of ourselves," he says. "It's like looking at a picture out of focus, outlines blurred, people soft around the sides, a genial vagueness in the very air, like gel wiped over a camera to spare an aging movie actress. But, oh, the possibilities, the potential, the chance of magic, if only we could sharpen the edges, be less perceptive, more visionary. I may be wrong. I picture a college more diverse and more intense, a college students of all races and backgrounds can flunk out of, a more daunting college, a place that graduates remember not only with affection but with awe. I may be wrong. I picture an administration that makes -- and accepts -- no excuses. I picture a faculty that engages openly in disagreement but feels a large commitment to this place and realizes that being here, every day, is a gorgeous blessing."

Are Mr. Kluge's words applicable to the C of C? Has he hit the nail on the head? What do you think, my friends?

The Value of Public Higher Education in South Carolina*

Public higher education contributes to the economy of the state in three key ways. First, it produces the skilled professional personnel needed to maintain a competitive economy. Second, it provides comprehensive and cost-effective research facilities which support economic planning and production. Third, it offers high-powered, cost-effective consulting capacity, which serves to assist in identifying and planning investment for economic development. These training, research and consulting capacities combine to make public higher education indispensable in the creation of a productive and competitive South Carolina economy. In turn, a healthy economy provides economic opportunities for all the people.

Besides providing economic opportunities, higher education enhances personal satisfaction for alumni by laying the foundation for a lifetime of learning. Moreover, it stimulates the development of creativity in its students, enabling them to become tomorrow's innovators.

Higher education is also essential to the social and cultural life of the state. It provides the leadership cadre for the public and private sectors and enlarges the level of information current in the general population; it improves social and political discourse on the issues of the day by promoting the development of an educated and sensitive citizenry; and it provides the facilities and creative energy for a vibrant cultural life. The breadth and diversity of these contributions to the well-being of the people are reflected in the breadth, diversity and geographical distribution of the faculty and institutions of public higher education. Classroom education, while the key activity creating value for the people, is only one kind of work demanded of an institution of higher education. To focus exclusively on classroom teaching is to argue that the expertise of higher education has no role in economic development, cultural activity, public policy debate, and basic research.

*these are excerpts from the full statements on the direction and current crisis in higher education; see p. 1

thanks to JD, BH, CCH, AS, WAL, BS, JP, and SSK for their assistance with this issue

Sex Harassment Quiz

Which of the following hypothetical scenarios meet the definition of sexual harassment? For the answers, you'll have to wait until the next issue.

1. A professor promises that a student's class grade will be OK as long as the student sleeps with the professor.
2. A professor and student enter into a mutually consenting sexual relationship. No promise of favoritism is offered to the student.
3. A professor frequently uses crude language. The vulgarity is not directed toward any identifiable subset of students, but rather is shared indiscriminately.
4. A staff person spreads rumors about another employee's sexual experiences. When the employee asks the staff person to stop, the staff member finds ways to make life difficult for the employee.
5. A professor of anatomy uses Playboy centerfolds as teaching slides.
6. A professor engages in sexual "banter" with a student who frequently seeks the professor's company.
7. A professor discusses personal sexual fantasies with students in class.
8. A coach pats or pinches the buttocks of team members after talking with them during games and in private. Some of the team members don't seem to mind this behavior, but others actively attempt to escape it. They are reluctant to say they don't like this behavior because they fear they will be benched in future games.
9. A professor asks a student to share a motel room at a meeting. After the student refuses, the professor begins criticizing the student's work.


"Faculty Night Out"

Alpha Phi Omega Service Fraternity will host a "Faculty Night Out" on Friday, February 18th, from 16:00 pm until Midnight. Mark your calendars now! And plan to leave your kids with A Phi O for the night. For more information, please contact Danielle Hunt, Vice-President for Service, at 3-8123.