SELF-STUDY COMMITTEE DISBANDS--
FACULTY SAY: WHO CARES ABOUT SACS?

In a move prompted by bureaucratic waste and inefficiency, the faculty self-study committee disbanded this week, citing complications and communications breakdowns with SACS, the accrediting agency. "There is just too much paperwork," said one faculty member who wished to remain anonymous. "We have had it up to here with SACS," said another, pointing to the top of her head, at once remembering the unknown comic and disgruntled football fans who also wish to remain anonymous. "Suppose they gave an accreditation and no one came? Why do we need some agency to tell us what we already know, that we are trying to be the best we can be?" What will happen now is anyone's guess, but the likeliest outcome is that the College will simply change the dates from the last self-study and submit it again.

New College Pep Band To Help Defray Athletics Department Costs:
"Alex Sanders' Rag Time Band"
exclusive interview and story on page five

Six Flags to Offer Special Program

The four disciples on the Board of Directors of the Six Flags Theme Parks, John, Paul, George, and Ringo, are announcing today a jointly offered program at the College of Charleston and Levi Strauss. The course program blends strengths of materials, textile management, and politics, bringing all three disciplines to a new high: flagpoles.

Eager to make some material gains in this enterprise is the Political Science department, the contributing academic department, which wishes to offer courses on Six Flags of South Carolina and Six Flags Over the Statehouse.

BEST Committee Reports: What is Good for the Navy Base is BEST for the College of Charleston

The BEST Committee has made a series of recommendations regarding the BEST use of the Navy Base: the C of C north campus will expand and become the actual main campus of the College of Charleston. In fifty years, report well-known campus environmentalists, the downtown campus of the College will be under water. So the BEST plan is to relocate now, before a new library is built.

Plans are under way. There will be a BEST Gardens, where students over 21 and their professors can drink beer and ride roller coasters simultaneously, using state of the art leftover Navy equipment and NASA gravity free containers.

Professors will be encouraged to offer courses in what they do BEST. All will be special topics, generically titled "The BEST of Professor ___(your name here)". Students will have an opportunity to take disk-saving exams from previous semesters' courses so that they can be tested on what they remember BEST.

Blending in the use of Navy ordnance equipment and the Chemistry department, a new major in Pyrotechnics will be created. Enrollments will explode, but classes will meet only on holidays. Better living through better Chemistry is what we will do BEST.

The Studio Art department reports that hundreds of gallons of grey paint are available, which will prompt the creation of a new course, where the only color available for student creations will be grey. Perhaps painting a grey line is BEST.

Faculty and departments who want to get a jump on the rest and come out looking BEST should notify the BEST Committee, chaired by Dr. Festa (say, doesn't he have the same name as the old guy in the Addams Family movies?).
To: Faculty Senate
Fr: New Age Committee on Faculty Morals, Manners, and Manifestoes
Re: De rerum natura

Be it resolved that we delete specific courses and add new courses, all of which would be mandatory for graduation:

- delete: Phil 204 Minds and Machines
  add: Phil xxx Mindless Machines
  rationale: does your computer smoke after interfacing?

- delete: POSC 316 Civil Liberties
  add: POSC xxx McCarthy: How to think without thinking
  rationale: how do you think?

- delete: ACCT 200 Accounting
  add: ACCT xxx Marketing Morality
  rationale: there is no accounting for morality

- delete: ARTS 216 Painting I
  add: ARTS xxx Painting by Numbers
  rationale: supplements the "stained glass by numbers" course

- delete: BIOL 311 Genetics
  add: BIOL xxx Where There's Smoke (ing), There's Fire (ing)
  rationale: lab experiment burnsGuess? jeans (no guess allowed in lab science)

- delete: CHEM 231 Organic Chemistry
  add: CHEM xxx Using the Rain Forest to Produce Faculty Evaluation Forms
  rationale: put it in writing--in triplicate with no carbon paper

- delete: COMM 213 Debate
  add: COMM xxx There's No Debating Allowed
  rationale: lab is Boxing 101

- delete: EDFS 201 Introduction to Education
  add: EDFS xxx Conclusion to an Education
  rationale: would you prefer an exit exam?

- delete: ENGL 348 Writing the Novel
  add: ENGL xxx The Novel Idea of Limiting Personal Freedom
  rationale: self-evident truth

- delete: LANG 102 Elementary Modern Greek
  add: LANG xxx Speaking in Tongues
  rationale: do the French speak of American kisses?

- delete: MATH 111 Pre-Calculus
  add: MATH xxx Counting on Your Fingers without using your toes
  rationale: basic multiplication

- delete: PEHD 217 Human Sexuality
  add: PEHD xxx Abstinence
  rationale: abstinence makes the heart grow fonder

- delete: PHYS 404 Quantum Mechanics
  add: PHYS xxx Quantum Leaps from Individual Freedom to Mass Hysteria
  rationale: !!!!!

- delete: RELS 115 Religion and Society
  add: RELS xxx Protecting the Rights of Beaufort Street Preachers
  rationale: Say: Do you believe?

- delete: HIST 235 High Middle Ages
  add: HIST xxx Low Dark Ages
  rationale: what did people do before flashlights?; before fax and answering machines?

Course title change:
- delete: GEOL 101 Dynamic Earth
  add: GEOL 101EWF Dynamic Earth, Wind, and Fire
  rationale: lab will test hot gasses to music

- add: PSYC xxx More Abnormal Psychology
  rationale: taught by the editor

Add to C of C general requirement list:
- SOCY 336 Death and Dying
  rationale: no grave jokes, please

contributed by (an) anonymous donor(s)
Faculty Research and Development Awards
Round 2: Summer '94

reported by Professor Randy Sparks, Chair
of Faculty Research and Development Committee

Barbara Borg (Anthr/Soc)
Jane Braaten (Phil)
Virginia Bartel (EE)
Concepcion de Godev (Lang)
Julia Eichelberger (Engl)
Susan Farrell (Engl)
Robert Frankis (Biol)
Todd Grantham (Phil)
Mary Beth Heston (ARTH)
Mary K. Holloway (Thtr)
Brad Huber (Anthr/Soc)
Robert Johnson (Biol)
Philip Jos (POSC)
Tom Kunkle (Math)
Roger Logan (Math)
Amy McCandless (Hist)
Kim May (Psych)
John Olbrich (Thtr)
Lauren Orth (EE)
Clifton Peacock (ARTS)
Carolyn Russell (Engl)
Norbert Scilippa (Lang)
Sandra Shields (Math)
Jeremy Telman (Hist)
Jung-fang Tsai (Hist)
Michael Tyzack (ARTS)

There were 30 applications.

Some Interesting Questions--
Should They Be Answered?
by Professor Maggie T. Pennington

1. How is it possible with the increased SAT scores
coupled with improved retention, that there are many
students at the College of Charleston who have a
shockingly limited vocabulary which prevents them
from interpreting everyday terms; there are many stu-
dents who lack any sort of work ethic or drive to ex-
cel (i.e., motivation, discipline); there are many stu-
dents who do not know how to study; there are many
students who cannot average three two-digit test
grades without their trusty calculator?

2. Why is it that some faculty give final examina-
tions (if any at all) during the last week of scheduled
classes? This is a burden on students and an infrin-
gement on faculty who are attempting to bring their
course work to a close. Further, it is flagrant abuse of
a faculty regulation, so many of which are being for-
gotten.

3. Did you know that: "After the official with-
drawal date, students may withdraw from a course
with a 'W' only with the special permission of the
Dean of Undergraduate Studies and the professor.
The permission will be granted only if continued en-
rollment in the course would be detrimental to the stu-
dent's health or if extenuating circumstances prevent
the student's continued enrollment."? (Page 113 of
the Undergraduate Bulletin). Did you know that "ex-
tenuating circumstances" were originally defined as
something catastrophic within the student's life? Did
you know that, as originally defined, fear of failure
was explicitly excluded and so stated on the with-
drawal form? Did you know that evaluation of peti-
tions to withdraw is a stated responsibility of the Aca-
demic Standards Committee except when the case is
clear cut or in cases where appeals to a committee
would invade the student's privacy? Is there a time
limit in which a grade may be administratively
changed to a "W"?

4. Did you know that growth does affect quality?

5. Are we all really "minding the store"?

thanks to cch, bs, jd, id, and the contributors for their assistance
Legislative Update

[Editor's note: this report is based on a conversation with Daniel Dukes IV, who had the editor's course on state politics in 1977; the conversation took place on March 28th]:

--Formula funding for higher education as approved by the House is $11 million short for all institutions combined compared with last year. For the College of Charleston, this amounts to $400,000. Most non-recurring funds that were added last year are not there this year, which accounts for the C of C shortage. Senate subcommittees have the budget at this time. The House version of the Appropriations Bill has a proviso to a supplemental bill. A supplemental bill permits expenditures if budget estimates are near the actual targets. For those who are confused: the state legislature is required to adjourn in early June. Some legislation, such as supplemental appropriations bills, provide for administrative direction after the General Assembly gets out of Columbia. This year, there is a projected surplus for 1993-4. Part of the supplemental bill provides money for school buses, federal retiree payoffs, and other items. Also in that supplemental bill is $20 million for higher education. If the surplus is greater than expected, higher education will get the $20 million, to be split among all the schools. Other monies from the supplement are non-recurring, and higher education gets about $15 million. We will know how much, if any, supplemental money we will get some time after June 30th.

--Higher education restructuring legislation: there are two bills. Both are designed to eliminate the Commission on Higher Education.

The Moore/Courson Bill (endorsed by the council of presidents) would set up a new governing body with three board chairs (USC, Clemson, MUSC), four additional members from the eight four-year schools (S.C. State’s membership is permanent, the others rotate), three members from the tech schools, seven members from the public at large elected by the General Assembly, and a chair appointed by the governor. That is 18 members. In addition, the Superintendent of Education serves ex officio. In terms of state organization, the staff of higher education would be under the governor.

The Drummond Bill: replaces CHE with a council of higher education similar to the existing CHE: one member from the three research schools, one member from the eight four-year schools, one member from tech schools, seven members elected by the General Assembly; the Superintendent of Education serves ex officio.

Both bills are still in their respective committees in their bodies (identical bills are in each house; neither has gotten out of committee). Early May is the legislative deadline for the floor calendar this term. The practical implication is that neither may pass this year.

Analysis: Both bills want to restructure higher education. The Moore/Courson Bill would provide more of an advocacy body than the Drummond Bill, but both bills propose a collective force to argue to the General Assembly that higher education is worth funding.

The Drummond Bill provides for more regulatory authority such as regulating mission statements, controlling enrollment, approving the appointment of college presidents, regulating tuition and fees, and so forth.

It would appear to be in our best interest to support the Moore/Courson Bill.

--State employee raises: 3.6%; 2% cola (July 1), 1.6% merit (Oct. 1). This provision is in the Appropriations bill.

--A hot topic earlier in this legislative term was to eliminate subsidies for out of state students. The notion was that out of state student fees do not completely cover the cost of delivering a college education to them. The state, therefore, subsidizes the remaining cost. The proposal was defeated in the House Ways and Means Committee (for you non-political readers, isn’t that a great [but typical, nationwide] name for the committee that does the government budget?)

--Another hot topic defused was a challenge to the tenure system. The Legislative Audit Council would have been directed to conduct studies to determine whether tenured state employees are working productively for the appropriate number of hours per week. This would have required faculty to submit time sheets, report on work performed, etc. This proposal, an amendment to the Appropriations Bill by Rep. Davenport (R, Spartanburg), was defeated on the House floor.