1995 SUMMER REPORT

Speaker’s Note

This is my first newsletter as Speaker and I hope that it serves to keep you informed on the current issues, changes and events which concern us. In particular, the Summer Issue needs to bring new and returning faculty up-to-date. But for future issues, it is also my intent that the newsletters serve as a forum where healthy dialogue on a broad range of topics will take place. I would like to extend a personal invitation to each of you in our college community to express your reasoned opinions through the Faculty Newsletter.

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Legislative Notes

(The following is part of a memorandum of July 18, 1995 from Daniel Dukes, the College of Charleston’s legislative liaison, reporting on 1995 legislative action concerning the College of Charleston.)

A. APPROPRIATION ISSUES

1) Higher education will receive a total of $596,606,214 in appropriated funds for formula funding for FY 1995-96. The College of Charleston’s appropriation for FY 1995-96 is $22,927,598. This is an increase of $602,700 over FY 1994-95 appropriation. These figures do not include the State’s portion of pay raise money which will be distributed to the colleges and universities at a later date.

2) The General Assembly provided an appropriation of $7 million for the College of
2) Charleston to purchase the Bishop England High School property.

3) The General Assembly provided an appropriation of $300,000 (non-recurring) in the Surplus Appropriations Bill for the College of Charleston to use for the Center for Entrepreneurship at the School of Business.

4) The General Assembly provided additional funds of $2,981,993 to higher education in the Surplus Appropriations Bill. The College of Charleston's share is $107,630.

5) The General Assembly appropriated $47.2 million for an average 3.5% pay increase effective July 1.

6) The FY 1995-96 Appropriations Bill contains line items adding 23 new FTE positions for the College of Charleston. (Speaker's Note: 11 new full-time faculty lines are part of this number. Source: President's comments during the July Board meeting.)

7) The Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCOR) research project was funded again with $2,000,000 in non-recurring funds. The College of Charleston participates in this project and will receive a portion of the funds.

8) An appropriation of $39,415,000 (non-recurring) was included in the Appropriations Bill for need based tuition. This appropriation will help pay the college education costs for students in South Carolina who meet certain requirements. However, the General Assembly could not agree on regulations on how to distribute these funds. The money will be available to students for the Fall 1996 Semester if the General Assembly can adopt regulations during the 1996 Legislative Session. The money is appropriated under the Educational Assistance Endowment Fund (see B-2 below).

9) All other College of Charleston programs which receive separate funding from the General Assembly, such as Governor’s School, Accelerated Schools Program, etc., were funded.

B. NEW LEGISLATION

1) A Part I proviso to the Appropriations Bill limits in-state tuition and fee increases at colleges and universities for FY 1995-96 to no more than the current year’s Higher Education Price Index (currently 3.4%). Speaker’s Note: The Board approved a tuition/fee increase of less than 1% for the College of Charleston for 1995-96. (See “Board of Trustees” on page 4.)

2) A Part II proviso to the Appropriation Bill creates the Educational Assistance Endowment Fund. This fund is to be funded each year from low-level nuclear waste fees collected by the State. Seventy percent of these funds are to be used for K-12 school facilities and 30% for college tuition assistance for in-state students. (Need-Based Tuition.)

3) Separate legislation was passed by the General Assembly which restructures the Commission on Higher Education. The legislation provides for the current Commission member’s terms to expire on July 1, 1996, at which time the members of the Commission selected in the manner provided by this Act will take office. The new Commission will consist of fourteen members appointed by the Governor. The membership will consist of one at-large member to serve as Chairman, one member from each of the six congressional districts, three members appointed from the State at-large, three representatives of public colleges and universities, and one representative of the independent colleges and universities.

4) The Commission on Higher Education Restructuring Bill provides for the establishment of a joint legislative committee to study the governance and operation of higher education in South Carolina. The committee shall:

   a. conduct a comprehensive review of the current governance structure of higher education, including statewide coordinating and oversight measures currently sustained;

   b. examine:
      i) national trends and reform efforts in higher education governance structures, including the advantages and disadvantages of increasing or decreasing the oversight role of state-level governance of higher education;

      ii) the lines of authority and relationship between the respective boards of trustees and the Commission on Higher Education;
c. investigate how higher education opportunities are currently provided to South Carolina students by examining the structures of higher education institutions at all levels;

d. address any other matters the committee considers necessary or appropriate;

e. solicit topics of inquiry from all public and private institutions in the State and the Commission on Higher Education.

The Committee shall conclude its work and issue its final report by February 1, 1996.

This concludes the Legislative Summary for 1995. Questions on details of the legislation should be directed to Daniel Dukes.

State Ethics Commission Advisory Bulletin

(Quoted verbatim from Advisory Bull.)

Speeches given in your official capacity. Public employees and officials are frequently called upon to give speeches in their official capacity. Usually, these speeches entail visits to civic or religious groups concerning some aspect of government or issues facing government. Occasionally, these speeches may be to professional organizations and may entail travel and lodging expenses. The State Ethics Commission is often questioned as to whether anything may be accepted for giving such speech (sic).

Section 8-13-715 of the Ethics Reform Act prohibits the acceptance of anything of value for speaking before any private or public group when the official or employee is speaking in an official capacity. A person is deemed to be speaking in an official capacity when the speaking engagement arises because of the position held by the official or employee, involves matters within that official's or employee's official responsibilities, and involve matters which the speaker's public agency would normally provide and for which the official or employee would be subject to expense reimbursement.

If the official or employee is in their official capacity, they are prohibited from accepting anything of value for such speech. Anything of value encompasses virtually anything, the notable exceptions are printed or promotional material not to exceed ten dollars in value, items of less than ten dollars in value containing or displaying promotional material, or a personalized plaque or trophy not to exceed one hundred and fifty dollars. Generally, a gift item of less than ten dollars in value containing the logo of the organization would not be prohibited. The State Ethics Commission has advised that officials or employees may accept meals which are incidental to the speech and which are available to all persons in attendance at the speech.

As a result of changes resulting from the passage of H4070 which took effect January 12, 1995, public officials and employees may receive payment or reimbursement for travel expenses incurred in giving a speech. The expenses are to be reasonable and are to be incurred in a reasonable time and manner to accomplish the speaking engagement. If the speech involves out-of-state travel, prior written approval from the chief agency executive is required.

(Address questions to Andy Abrams.)

Campus Facilities

The following is a list of the anticipated facilities changes that we can expect in the near to relatively near future

1) It is estimated that Bishop England will come on line by Fall 1997. Bishop England needs to settle on a relocation site and move.

2) The College is negotiating with Southern Bell to acquire the third, fourth and fifth floors of the building and parking lot at 81 St. Philip Street. The College will have the opportunity in the future to purchase the remaining property should it become available

3) Renovation of the old gym at Meeting and George Streets should be complete by this fall. Included will be seven new classrooms, as well as new laboratories and offices.

4) The third floor of the Sears building is expected to be completed by March 1996 and will house administrative computing, career services and academic advising.

5) There are plans to build a three story addition to the J.C. Long building to house the Center for Entrepreneurship.
6) The second floor of the old Nations Bank building on King Street between Society and Wentworth Streets houses the Institute for Public Affairs and its Master’s degree program. The first floor is occupied by the consortium of agencies for small business.

7) Finally, the Kelly House, the new private dormitory on St. Philip and Vanderhorst Streets, is nearing completion and is expected to open by Fall 1995. Another private student residence is being considered for the old Condon’s building on upper King Street.

**Board of Trustees**

At the beginning of each Board of Trustees meeting a bound document is distributed containing the minutes of the previous Board meeting, the agenda for the current meeting and most of the supporting documents for the current meeting. These documents for the May 3, 1995 and July 19, 1995 Board meetings, as well as all future ones, will be available for your review in the office of the Secretariat on the 2nd floor of Maybank Hall, next to the Faculty lounge. A large part of the information contained in this newsletter was obtained during the July 18 and 19 meetings of the Board committees and the full Board meeting.

The agenda for the July 19, 1995 meeting included:
- Review of the 94-95 budget activity;
- Proposed Budgets for 1995-96;
- Regular Tuition/Fee Increase Proposal (Academic $15/semester, Housing $25/semester, Food $20/semester) representing a 0.98% increase. Approved;
- Legal Interpreting Fee Proposal. Approved;
- Contract Course Fee Proposal. Approved;
- Funding on 298-300 Meeting and 65 Coming Streets (student residencies). Approved;
- Bioethics Joint Master’s Degree Program. Approved.

**Sexual Harassment Policy**

The latest Sexual Harassment Policy document has been completed and circulated to The Faculty as an addition to the Faculty/Administration Manual. If you have not received a copy, please contact the office of Sue Sommer-Kresse, VP for Enrollment Management.

In an attempt to bridge the differences which were voiced during the April 1995 Faculty Senate Meeting concerning possible repeated patterns of sexual harassment, the following statement, which was not included in the Senate endorsed version, was added to the current document:

"The Vice President for Legal Affairs will review all complaints annually to determine if a pattern of complaints against any faculty, student or staff appears to exist. If the Vice President for Legal Affairs concludes that such a pattern exists, then he/she will advise the appropriate Senior Vice President of these complaints or the President, if the accused is a Senior Vice President."

**Sabbatical Policy**

The latest policy on sabbaticals has been added to the Academic Affairs Policy Manual. Aside from providing the guidelines and timetable for application, one change that should be noted is the expectation of “a lecture or demonstration” as part of the means by which the findings of the leave will be shared.

This requirement did not have the support of the Senate. During the April 18, 1995 Faculty Senate meeting the Faculty Senate endorsed the “Sabbatical Leave Policy” with an amendment striking the sentence concerning the expectation of “a lecture or demonstration”.

In his explanation of why this expectation was retained in the Sabbatical Policy, Provost Conrad Festa wrote “... the positive effects accruing from presentations for both our colleagues and the presenters themselves add substantially to the value of sabbaticals.”

A memo with the exact wording of the new policy on sabbaticals has been sent to all department chairs. This same document should be provided to each faculty member anticipating applying for a sabbatical the following year.
Summer Events

Capital Campaign

On June 16, the kick-off for the capital campaign formally began. Hosted by Peatsy and Fritz Hollings and Alex and Zoe Sanders the event was a black-tie dinner held at the Cistern, which included some unusual entertainment. The goal of the capital campaign is to raise thirty-three million dollars to support academic programs at the College of Charleston. The College is seeking:
- $8,050,000 to increase student scholarships;
- $4,525,000 to equip computer classrooms and science, mathematics and language laboratories;
- $6,370,000 to develop and endow significant programs across campus;
- $6,250,000 to build a new library, add a building for the School of the Arts and complete the renovation of the Avery Research Center for African American History and Culture. A combination of private and public funds are required for the library and the School of the Arts projects. The Ford Foundation has issued a 3 to 1 challenge grant for the $200,000 to complete the renovation of the Avery Research Center;
- $4,500,000 to attract top-ranking teacher/scholars;
- $3,305,000 to continue the Annual Fund’s scholarship, faculty development and community programs and the Cougar Club’s athletic programs.

So far, the College has raised $10,500,000 towards the $33,000,000 goal. (Source, Office of College Relations News Release, June 20, 1995. Contact: Claire Fund.) Speaker’s Note: As of July 19, 1995 the amount raised has increased to $11,700,000.

A brochure outlining in detail the specific programs which would be supported by the capital campaign funds was distributed to everyone at the event and is available by request from the Foundation office at the Sottile House.

Of course, your Speaker attended the kick-off event; mingling, shaking hands and chatting with the invited guests. You can witness the rare sight of me in a rented dinner jacket, wing collar, black-tie, etc. by referring to the Style section of the Post and Courier for Saturday, June 24. Some of the highlights from the the June 16 event will be reproduced for faculty and staff at the President’s annual picnic on August 22 at 12 noon in the F. Mitchell Johnson Athletic Center on George Street.

Carolina Day

On June 28 the city celebrated Carolina Day, which commemorates a revolutionary war victory over the British on Sullivan’s Island which occurred on that date. There were events scheduled for the entire day ending with a parade of the institutions and organizations of Charleston in order of their respective age. Your Speaker was there representing the Faculty in full regalia, carrying the official mace. At different times, the group representing the College varied between five and seven. The parade began at Washington Park and proceeded down Broad to Church and down Church to White Point Gardens. At White Point Gardens a military band was waiting as were several dignitaries who would later give speeches before the assembled audience. The temperature at the staging point in Washington Park was about 600 degrees Fahrenheit with a relative humidity better suited for gills or a blow-hole. The night herons in the trees above our heads seemed to be having the most fun.

Spoleto

Those of you who are new to the College and Charleston or who leave town the day after Spring semester and return the day before Fall semester (as I used to do before we had a child) must someday experience the transformation which takes place in this city each year during Spoleto. The quiet, charming streets of Charleston take on a theatrical air that reminds me of a cross between the town square in the movie King of Hearts after the inmates abandoned the mental hospital and Telegraph Avenue in Berkeley on a Saturday afternoon in late spring. For me it is wonderful. Usually we just enjoy the temporary ambiance of the city streets and seldom go to any actual Spoleto events because they are too expensive. But this year we lucked out. The President of Ukraine was considering a visit to Charleston to witness the Ukrainian National Ballet perform Swan Lake during Spoleto. It was suggested that the College present the President with an honorary degree. All of the necessary approvals concerning the awarding of an honorary degree were arranged, the time and place were chosen and the person who would actually award the
degree was found (moi). Preceding the event would be dinner at our President’s house and following the event, Swan Lake. Tickets for the ballet would accompany the fine wine and the wonderful food. (The Sanders are impeccable hosts.) It was one of those things that I could not wait to have behind me. The thought of standing in front of thousands of people in Galliard Auditorium reciting a speech, possibly in Russian or Ukrainian, and conferring an honorary degree on a head-of-state had me looking for Jack Kavorkian’s address on the World-Wide-Web. Besides, why me? Was there more here than meets the eye? I was back on the web looking for Kevlar vests. But this is where I lucked out. Apparently a political advisor to the Ukrainian President felt that it might look bad if pictures of the President of Ukraine parading around some minor outpost in America got back to Kiev. Someone was dispatched to Charleston to see if it was a worthy place for their President to add to his brief and busy itinerary. It wasn’t. So we had the party without him and that evening, rather than becoming a Manchurian Candidate-like nightmare, became a sweet memory that highlighted my summer.

I hope each of you had a great summer. Welcome back.

A reminder that the first Senate Meeting is Tuesday, September 5th, so please get any agenda items to me by early next week.