To: Faculty  
From: Susan Farrell, Faculty Secretary  
About: April 25th Senate Meeting  

**Highlights**

The Faculty Senate met on Tuesday, April 25, for approximately an hour and a half to consider unfinished business from our April 11 meeting. Here are the highlights (full minutes to follow later):

--After much discussion, the new major in Marketing and Supply Chain Management was sent back to the Curriculum Committee, largely because Senators felt the proposal was incomplete.

--All other motions brought by the Curriculum Committee passed.

--The Senate voted to approve a new certificate program in Medical and Health Care Interpreting put forth by the Graduate Education Committee. The Senate also approved four new courses associated with this certificate.

--The Senate voted to suspend the rules to consider a proposal concerning the honor code and XF grade brought by the Graduate Education Committee. The suspension was necessary since this item of business did not appear on the original agenda for the Senate’s April 11 meeting. The Senate approved the proposal, but added two minor friendly amendments concerning wording.
To: Faculty
From: Susan Farrell, Faculty Secretary
About: April 11, 2006 Senate Meeting

Highlights

The Faculty Senate met on Tuesday, April 11, for two hours. Here are the highlights (full minutes to follow later):

--The Provost reported that she has asked Julia Eichelberger to take over as Chair of the Ad-Hoc Committee on General Education. In addition, she announced a re-organization of the Office of Undergraduate Studies. Various people and responsibilities are being shuffled to form a new Office of Undergraduate Academic Services, which will be headed by Lynn Cherry. Current Dean of Undergraduate Studies Sandy Powers will become an Associate Vice President and academic liaison to CHE.

--Speaker of the Faculty Bob Mignone publicly recognized President Lee Higdon for the job he's done while at the College of Charleston. Mr. Mignone said that President Higdon has had a transforming effect on this campus, especially in relation to facilities, faculty salaries, new hires, and student-focused initiatives. He added that President Higdon will be missed when he leaves, and that his effects on campus will be felt long after he's gone. Mr. Mignone also announced that he will be a member of the search committee charged with finding a new president.

--Julia Eichelberger, of the Ad-Hoc Committee on General Education, announced that her committee has been working to provide defining characteristics for the general education goals the Senate approved in January. The next step in the process will be to identify what kinds of curriculum and other activities the College currently has in place to meet these goals, and where there are holes. She hopes that her committee will have at least one stage of a concrete proposal ready to bring to the Senate in the fall.

--Susan Kattwinkel, Melanie Kyer, and Kay Smith, of the Committee on the First Year Experience, reported that the new SACS evaluation process requires the College to submit a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) that outlines future steps to improve the College. A proposal concerning the First Year Experience will be that QEP for us. Right now, committees are being put together to examine curricular, student support, and assessment elements of the First Year Experience. Curricular elements will involve both first year seminars and learning communities.

--The Senate voted to approve a resolution supporting the identity of the College of Charleston as a public liberal arts and sciences institution.

--After a presentation from the Coca-Cola Corporation, a rebuttal by students from the College's chapter of Amnesty International, and a discussion among faculty senators, the Senate voted to approve a resolution asking the Administration not to renew the College's exclusive vending contract with the Coca-Cola Corporation.
--The Senate approved a motion from the Committee on Nominations and Elections to increase Honor Board membership to a total of 16 members.

--The Senate took nominations from the floor for next year's Committee on Nominations and Elections. Tom Kunkle (Mathematics) and Kathy DeHaan (Communication) were nominated. They will join the slate of candidates already put forward by the Nominations Committee: Marion Doig (Chemistry), Lynne Ford (Political Science), Annette Godow (Physical Education & Health), Frank Morris (Classics/German/Italian/Japanese/Russian), and Michael Phillips (Library).

--The Senate approved the slates for Faculty Senate Committees (Academic Planning, Budget, and By-Laws) put forth by the Nominations Committee.

--Because of time and room constraints, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 without finishing all items of business on the agenda. The meeting will continue on Tuesday, April 25, 2006 at 5:00 p.m. in Beatty Center 115.
To: Faculty
From: Susan Farrell, Faculty Secretary
About: March 28 Senate Meeting

Highlights

The Faculty Senate met on Tuesday, March 28, for two hours. Here are the highlights (full minutes to follow later):

--The Provost reported that a new round of strategic planning is set to begin at the College. This round of planning will explore where the College hopes to be in the next 5-10 years. Faculty members will soon be asked to participate in this process.

--Associate Vice-President for Diversity Carolyn Morales introduced herself to the Senate and reported that she is currently working with the Diversity Council to set up subcommittees on specific issues concerning diversity. She also announced that the College is soon to receive a gift directed toward increasing diversity; an advisory council is currently being set up to review proposals about how the gift should be used.

--Assistant Treasurer David Katz reported that, in the fall semester, a new policy to enforce student payment of tuition will be instituted. Students who do not pay by the August 11 deadline will be dropped from their courses for non-payment. Although they may re-register immediately, these students will have no guarantee of getting back into the classes they’d originally registered for.

--Speaker of the Faculty Bob Mignone thanked the organizing committee of the College Identity discussion for its successful forum Friday afternoon. He also thanked Claire Curtis for making the original motion that instigated this discussion. In addition, Mr. Mignone announced that, in his role as Speaker, he will help organize the process by which faculty will participate in the next stage of strategic planning. Finally, he reminded faculty members to think about how to handle the transition to the new grading policy. In his spring newsletter, he will outline several specific models that might be used.

--The Senate approved all the proposals put forth by the Curriculum Committee and the Graduate Education Committee. Some minor amendments were added to the new Interdisciplinary Minor in
Comparative Literature. (These will be detailed more explicitly in the full minutes to follow).

--The Senate approved the motion from the Faculty Welfare Committee to make SCIP evaluation results available to faculty members.

--The Senate sent the recommendation on online student evaluation of classes back to the Faculty Educational Technology Committee for further consideration.

--The Senate approved the proposed additions to procedures for post-tenure review put forth by the Post-Tenure Review Committee.

--Students from Amnesty International gave a presentation on human rights violations by the Coca-Cola Company. But because the meeting had to adjourn at 7:00 p.m. because the room was needed, the Senate was unable to discuss their resolution that the College not renew its exclusive vending contract with Coca-Cola. This matter will be taken up at the April 11 Senate meeting.

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To: Faculty  
From: Susan Farrell, Faculty Secretary  
About: February 28 Senate Meeting  

Highlights  

The Faculty Senate met on Tuesday, February 28, for about two hours. Here are the highlights (full minutes to follow later):

--The Senate passed a recommendation from the Academic Planning Committee to “require department- or program-driven course approval by the Curriculum Committee and the Senate prior to transcript notation for non-credit experience.”

--The Senate approved a proposal from the Academic Standards Committee to modify admission standards for the School of Business and Economics. The proposal states that students must complete the following courses with no grade less than a ‘C-’:

MATH 104 or 250  
MATH 105 or 120  
ECON 201 or HONS 211  
ECON 202 or HONS 212  
ACCT 203*  
ACCT 204*  
DSCI 232

*Economics majors are not required to take the two accounting courses.

--The Senate approved the formation of an Ad-Hoc Committee to consider course-related issues brought up by the Student Government Association (in their resolution about the new grading policy). Specifically, the Ad-Hoc Committee will study the course withdrawal deadline, the maximum number of withdrawal credit hours allowed, the possibility of an academic redemption policy, and the GPA required for various levels of graduation and semester honors.

--The Senate approved all the proposals put forth by the Curriculum Committee.
The Faculty Senate met on Tuesday, November 29 for about an hour and twenty minutes. Here are the highlights (full minutes to follow later):

**Highlights**

--Speaker Bob Mignone reminded faculty that the new plus/minus grading system will go into effect in fall of 2006. In the faculty newsletter for this fall, Mr. Mignone will discuss how he plans to use the new grading system, and he hopes that all faculty members will begin to consider how they will calibrate grades in the new system as well. Next, Mr. Mignone announced that he would like to put together an informal executive council consisting of the Speaker of the Faculty, the Speaker Pro-Tem, the Faculty Secretary, and the Senate Parliamentarian, to facilitate better communication between the faculty and the administration. Mr. Mignone also asked faculty members to look for a forthcoming e-mail from him about the January MLK Challenge, and he reminded faculty of the meeting to be held with the President and the Provost this Friday, December 2 at 9:30 am in Addlestone Library 227 to discuss college identity.

--Susan Kattwinkel, reporting on behalf of the Ad-hoc Committee on First Year Education, announced that the committee has been working on the logistics of the first-year seminar proposal approved in spirit by the Senate last year. In the spring, the committee will work with the Ad-hoc Committee on General Education to answer remaining questions about the course.

--Phil Paradise, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee of the Student Government Association, reported that the Student Senate had just passed a resolution designed to ease implementation of the new plus/minus grading system. After some discussion, Hugh Wilder (At-Large, Philosophy) moved that the Senate refer the entire SGA resolution to the Academic Standards Committee for their consideration and action where appropriate. The Committee will report back to the Senate at its February 28 meeting. The motion passed.

--After some discussion and the addition of a friendly amendment, the motion brought by the Faculty Welfare Committee concerning the Labor Day Holiday passed.

--All motions put forth by the Curriculum Committee passed.

--All motions put forth by the Committee on Graduate Education, Continuing Education, and Special Programs passed.

--After some tweaking of language through the addition of four friendly amendments, the Faculty Leave Policy put forth by the Faculty Welfare Committee passed.
--A motion brought by Claire Curtis, asking that the Faculty Senate convene a campus-wide conversation on the identity of the College of Charleston as a liberal arts and sciences institution, passed after brief discussion.

--During the Constituents' Concerns portion of the meeting, George Hopkins (History) expressed concern that members of the College custodial staff "had been called to a meeting in which they were informed that the College was looking into contracting out their work and that some of them might be fired." Mr. Hopkins wondered whether a plan to privatize our custodial employees, many of whom are African American and have worked here for many years, exists, and if it does, whether this violates our core value of community. There was no response to the question.

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To: Faculty  
From: Susan Farrell, Faculty Secretary  
About: November 1 Senate Meeting

The Faculty Senate met on Tuesday, November 1 for about an hour and a half. Here are the highlights (full minutes to follow later):

**Highlights**

--Provost Elise Jorgens announced that the new plus/minus grading policy will be implemented in fall semester of 2006. She explained that she hadn't anticipated the "level of anxiety" her request to delay implementation of this policy would cause on campus. The Academic Standards Committee will continue to conduct research into the effects of the policy, and will be responsible for tracking average GPA's at the college over the next four or five years. The Provost does not expect a marked difference in average GPA's over this period, but thinks it is important we gather as much information about the effects of the new policy as possible.

--Speaker Bob Mignone reported that the general education forums held on October 24th and 25th were very successful, with over 60 attendees each day. The Ad-hoc General Education Committee plans to distill out and synthesize the goals and objectives suggested at the forums and by departments and bring a list for Senate approval sometime next spring.

--Two proposals put forth by the Curriculum Committee--a change in prerequisite for ECON 320 and changes to the degree requirements for the Film Studies Minor--passed on a voice vote.

--Two proposals brought by the Committee on Graduate Education--a Master of Arts in Communication and a change in program requirements for the M.Ed. in Languages--passed on a voice vote.

--After lengthy discussion, the New Admission Policy for the School of Business and Economics (brought by the Academic Standards Committee) was voted down.

--A motion brought by Glen Lesses for the Academic Planning Committee to consider the issue of non-credit experiences appearing on academic transcripts, was passed after being amended to read as follows: "The Academic Planning Committee shall review the treatment of non-credit experiences on the academic transcript and report with a recommendation to the Senate by the February 2006 meeting."

--During the Constituents' Concerns portion of the meeting, Jack Parsons raised questions about a change in language in the advertisement for a new Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences. Mr. Parsons pointed out that language describing the college as a "pre-eminent liberal arts and sciences university" was taken out of the advertisement. Provost Jorgens responded by informing the faculty that she asked for the change in language.
She added that, after numerous conversations with President Higdon, the deans, and other groups on campus, she has been working on a white paper suggesting a different way to think about the College. The reality of the situation, the Provost argued, is that we're not a liberal arts college; the language describing us in these terms is misleading because of our large size and the complexity of our mission. Her white paper, when finished, will suggest a new way to promote the College for what we actually are. She hopes to finish this paper in the next few months and then open a conversation with faculty about it.
To: Faculty  
From: Susan Farrell, Faculty Secretary  
About: October Senate Meeting

**Highlights**

The Faculty Senate met on Tuesday, October 11 for about 45 minutes. Here are the highlights (full minutes to follow later):

-- Senior Vice President for Student Affairs Victor Wilson reported that he had been working to put together a drug and alcohol task force at the college. A new policy providing an automatic one-semester suspension for any student caught with illegal drugs has been put into place.

-- Julia Eichelberger, of the ad-hoc General Education Committee, urged all faculty members to attend one of the workshops on General Education reform which will be held October 24th and 25th. The same workshop will be held both days in the hopes that as many faculty as possible will be able to attend one of them.

-- Speaker Bob Mignone reported that he has asked the Academic Planning Committee to examine issues surrounding service learning courses, including a catalog designation for such courses, standards for determining what courses would qualify as service learning, and who would be the gatekeeper for such courses. He expects a report back later in the semester.

-- The Senate approved adding both John Peters of the Biology Department and Bill Olejniczak of the History Department to the ad-hoc General Education Committee, to replace Allan Strand of the Biology Department, who is taking sabbatical leave.

-- Proposals put forth by the Curriculum Committee and the Committee on Graduate Education passed by voice vote.

-- The Senate approved the Proposed Smoking Policy brought by the Faculty Welfare Committee. The policy sets up a Smoking Policy Review Committee and offers recommendations for items to be pursued by that committee.
To: Faculty  
From: Susan Farrell, Faculty Secretary  
About: September Senate Meeting  

**Highlights**

The Faculty Senate met on Tuesday, September 13 for nearly two hours. Here are the highlights (full minutes to follow later):

--Susan Kattwinkel was elected Speaker Pro Tem for 2005-2006.

--Speaker Bob Mignone spoke about the necessity of the general education review now taking place on campus. Since we review our majors quite frequently, he believes it is essential that we also review the one part of our curriculum that we have in common: general education. Mr. Mignone announced that faculty forums to discuss general education will be held on October 24th and October 25th in the Beatty Center (specific times to be announced later).

--Provost Elise Jorgens echoed Mr. Mignone about the importance of general education and strongly encouraged faculty to become involved in the review process since we all have a stake in general education. She reported, in addition, that she has been working with the Deans to identify areas of institutional distinctiveness. Finally, she discussed her views on the new grading system at the College, which originally was to be implemented in Fall of 2006. The provost expressed concerns that the new system would cause grade deflation, which would adversely affect students, especially those with LIFE and HOPE scholarships. She announced that she had asked Mr. Mignone to send the proposal back to the Academic Standards Committee to further investigate the system's possible impact on students. She has asked Kay Smith to work with the committee on this task.

--Speaker Bob Mignone then opened the floor for fifteen minutes so that faculty members could air their concerns about delaying implementation of the new grading system. Several faculty members argued against such a delay, citing procedural irregularities, saying grades and retention policies should not be linked, and pointing out that this issue had been thoroughly discussed when it first came up several years ago. At the end of this discussion, Mr. Mignone affirmed that the grading policy issue has been sent back to the Academic Standards Committee for further review.

--After much discussion, the Senate voted in favor of the new XF grade as an honor violation sanction.

--All proposals put forth by both the Curriculum Committee and the Committee on Graduate Education passed.

--The Senate voted to endorse the resolution to hire a recycling coordinator, brought by the Committee on Recycling and Environmental Activity.