

**FACULTY SENATE MEETING**  
**October 1, 2003**

CHAIR JAMES R. AUGUSTINE – A reminder for senators to sit in the center section of the auditorium and non-senators to the sides.

**I. Call to Order.**

CHAIR AUGUSTINE – The regular monthly meeting of the Faculty Senate of the University of South Carolina will come to order.

**II. Correction and Approval of Minutes.**

CHAIR AUGUSTINE – The minutes have been circulated to everyone. Are there any corrections? Seeing none the minutes stand approved as distributed.

**III. Reports of Committees.**

**a. Faculty Senate Steering Committee, Professor Sarah Wise, Secretary:**

PROFESSOR WISE (Retailing) – The Faculty Senate Steering Committee submits the following nominee for a two-year term on the Faculty Budget Committee: Davis Baird from the Department of Philosophy. Nominations will remain open until the end of the meeting.

For your information Venkataraman Lakshmi from the Department of Geological Sciences has been appointed to the University Athletics Advisory Committee for a one-year term.

CHAIR AUGUSTINE – Thank you very much, Professor Wise.

**b. Committee on Curricula and Courses, Professor Gary Blanpied, Chair:**

PROFESSOR BLANPIED (Physics & Astronomy) – Our committee has items from page 12 through page 18 for your consideration. We move I. College of Liberal Arts the Department of Art which has a change in title, description, and cross-listing.

CHAIR AUGUSTINE – The committee moves I. College of Liberal Arts the Department of Art with changes in title, description, and cross-listing. Is there any discussion? Seeing none all those in favor of this motion say aye. All opposed say no. The motion passes.

PROFESSOR BLANPIED – II. School of Music has a change in cross-listing.

CHAIR AUGUSTINE – The committee has moved II. School of Music - a change in cross-listing. Is there any discussion? Seeing none all those in favor of the change in cross-listing say aye. Those opposed say no. The motion passes.

PROFESSOR BLANPIED – III. College of Nursing there is a change in the curriculum and many new courses. There is a typographical error on page 16 the credit hours for NURS 317 should be changed from 2 to 3. Two typographical errors on page 18, the third new course is NURS 432 and not NUS 423. We move these changes from page 18 through 18.

CHAIR AUGUSTINE – The committee has moved III. College of Nursing - changes in the Bachelor of Science and Nursing curriculum as well as the corrections that were indicated. Is there any discussion? Seeing none all those in favor of this motion say aye. Those opposed say no. The motion passes.

PROFESSOR BLANPIED – IV. College of Science and Mathematics – A. Department of Geological Sciences and B. Department of Marine Science are new courses that are cross-listed: GEOL 524 and MSCI 524.

CHAIR AUGUSTINE – The committee has moved IV. College of Science and Mathematics: Department of Geological Sciences a new course and Department of Marine Science a new course. Is there any discussion? Seeing none all those in favor of this change say aye. Those opposed say no. The ayes have it, the motion passes. Thank you Professor Blanpied.

**c. Faculty Advisory Committee, Professor William Bearden, Chair:**

CHAIR AUGUSTINE – Professor Bearden told me a few minutes before the meeting that he wouldn't be able to be here so I want to share a couple of things on behalf of that committee with you. At its last meeting the Faculty Advisory Committee undertook a suggestion to make a change in the *Faculty Manual* under Political Activity (p. 42). The suggestion was that before a faculty member announces for public office the president must approve “each and every candidacy,” rather than as it now states just “the candidacy” - to clarify that reapproval would be needed every time a person ran for office. This recommendation will go to the General Faculty at its next meeting for their approval.

Secondly, if you recall, at the last General Faculty meeting, the General Faculty approved changes in tenure and promotion in cases of reorganization. There was an extensive proposal that was put forward at the General Faculty meeting that had five parts to it. Those five parts were approved by the General Faculty. It has come to our attention that an additional sentence related to clarifying these five parts needs to be added to the *Faculty Manual* and the Faculty Advisory Committee approved that change in language under Amendments and Transitional Provisions (p.19). I share that with you for your information. That new language simply clarifies what the General Faculty had already approved and to make it legal.

**d. Faculty Welfare Committee, Professor Peter Graham, Chair:**

PROFESSOR GRAHAM (Sport & Entertainment Management) – I do have a report to make. I am happy to announce once again this year the Welfare Committee has committed \$5,000.00 to the flu inoculation program. Flu shots will be available when announced. Free to all faculty members current and retired that have contributed to the Family Fund.

I also want to bring to your attention another matter that has come in front of our committee and that was sent to us by Professor Walt Hanclosky from Media Arts. Walt informed us that from January 1<sup>st</sup> to March 1<sup>st</sup> of this coming year those faculty members who are in the optional retirement plan will have a window to buy into the State Retirement plan if they so choose. To buy in it will be 16% of your current salary per year that you buy in. The years that are available to buy in right now are for public school educators those in elementary and secondary schools. It would include all the governmental work so on and so forth plus public education and the years teaching in private education. However, when the bill was passed there was no inclusion of the years for higher education. Consequently, those here at the University and elsewhere within the state system who have years in private education - for example someone comes in from Harvard with 20 years - would not be able to apply those years to buy into the State Retirement plan. But someone coming in from Michigan State with 20 years would be eligible to use those 20 years. So Dick Elliott from District 28 filed legislation this past January to amend the legislation to include the opportunity to use the years earned in private education. That bill has gone to the Senate Finance Committee and there it sits. It is imperative that we get that bill out of committee, get that bill passed by the Senate, and moved to the House in time so that faculty who want to opt into the State plan can use their private education years and can also meet the time lines of the window going from January 1 to March 1. Therefore, our committee voted unanimously to support the tenets of Senator Elliott's bill and we would entertain to have a motion come from the Faculty Senate to support Senator Elliott in his efforts and also to ask of our Faculty Senate Chair to contact his colleagues in other public institutions around the State asking for their support of this particular measure. Indicating the urgency of getting it passed and changed in time so we can meet this one time only window of opportunity – January 1, to March 1, 2004.

CHAIR AUGUSTINE – Professor Graham is chair of the Faculty Welfare Committee but he is not a Faculty Senator so we would like to ask someone from the Senate if they would be so inclined to make that motion on behalf of his committee. Is there a second? The motion then is to ask the Chair of the Faculty Senate to contact his colleagues and others who would be interested in helping us in this regard to make sure that Senate Bill 61 is passed. It would allow colleagues from the faculty who have been at private institutions to invest in the South Carolina retirement plan. Is there any discussion of this motion?

PRESIDENT ANDREW SORENSEN – Mr. Chairman, if you will give me a copy of the letter you send to your colleagues, I will send the same letter to all of my colleagues.

CHAIR AUGUSTINE – Thank you, Mr. President. I have talked with the President about this matter and have talked with the legislative liaison Shirley Mills about it as well. So we are doing our best so far to make sure that this matter is passed. Any other discussion? Seeing none all those in favor of this motion say aye. Those opposed no. The ayes have it – the motion passes. Professor Graham other comments or reports?

PROFESSOR GRAHAM – No nothing more at this time. I might say one other little thing. We are looking at other programs from Wellness Works to find out the various offerings they are going to have available. I believe, as we have in the past, we will appropriate a certain amount of money to help subsidize faculty who want to participate in some of those programs but that will be a future report.

CHAIR AUGUSTINE – Nothing on parking, Professor Graham?

PROFESSOR GRAHAM – Well, you want the full story? Yes! Parking becomes a little bit redundant but I might indicate that we have had one complaint from a faculty member who feels that he is being discriminated based upon age. Apparently he has an “H” sticker and he was parking in a certain lot where he was not to be parking because it was a reserved space and he came back to a ticket. Yet there were 2 vehicles that had “Z” stickers for students and they did not have tickets and he was very upset about that. But I think we will resolve that particular incident.

CHAIR AUGUSTINE – Professor Graham the solution to that is to obviously give him a “Z” sticker. (Laughter) Question? Yes. Would you please state your name?

PROFESSOR NANCY LANE (Languages, Literatures, and Cultures) – When and how will the dates of the flu shots be announced?

PROFESSOR GRAHAM – We will have an announcement going out through the Faculty Senate Office. I have talked with Chair Augustine about that the other day – so that everybody will get it through e-mail. It will also be in the *USC Times* and other medias of broadcast.

CHAIR AUGUSTINE – We will even put it on the front page of the Faculty Senate website. That I know everybody checks rather regularly.

**e. Committee on Admissions, Professor Don Stowe, Chair and Committee on Scholastic Standards and Petitions, Professor Jane Olsgaard, Chair:**

CHAIR AUGUSTINE – The Committee on Admissions and the Committee on Scholastic Standards and Petitions have a joint report to make. Professor Olsgaard will report for those two groups.

PROFESSOR OLSGAARD (Libraries) – The Committee on Admissions and the Committee on Scholastic Standards and Petitions present the Attachment 2 found on page 19 from the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. This is a change in their transfer admission requirements both from within the University and from colleges and universities outside of ours.

CHAIR AUGUSTINE – The committees move the joint report, Attachment 2 page 19, the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry a change in curriculum in the Undergraduate Bulletin. Is there any discussion? All those in favor of this motion say aye. Those opposed say no. The motion passes.

**f. Faculty Budget Committee, Professor David Berube, Chair:**

PROFESSOR BERUBE (English) – I do my best to answer all the e-mails I get about budget questions and since I haven't gotten return e-mail I guess I did all right on the first few of them. At the recent Budget meeting we discussed a whole bunch of material. The three subjects I just wanted to mention is there is a real commitment on my part and I think for the whole committee to be as transparent as possible. When you send e-mail and you ask questions, I bring them to the Budget Committee and we discuss the questions there. I do get responses out to you. So, if you e-mail me, I will get whatever questions you have eventually into the Budget Committee's agenda.

The two research projects that I have been working on:

1. To investigate a means to index scholarships to the tuition increases. Our scholarships are currently undervalued by about \$1 million. These are the merit scholarships and such. If we want to maintain standards for qualified undergraduates we really need to find a way to index the scholarships and try to find funds to do that. So I am getting the data on that together now. I want to thank Dennis Pruitt's office; they have been really helpful on this second project.

2. The second project I am working on, with Jane Jameson's office, is in terms of trying to get materials together. Since our budget is so dominated by salary and benefits, I am trying to get the data together on classification of employees and options we have for dealing with the operations and the category of the expenses, everything from privatization to other options. So that research is still in the early phase.

I am also on VCM (value centered management) Committee. I get a lot of e-mail about VCM. I have been trying to answer that as clearly as I can and that is a little more challenging at times. At the last meeting I listened to Dean Rossi and Dean Crawley speak about what they thought some of the reservations were and out of that I think I crafted some ideas and shifted it off to the committee so we could discuss it. The faculty is pretty much concerned about four major things and if you have any additional concerns e-mail me and we can add them to the list:

1. The first major concern is about the big issues of will VCM allow USC to be a comprehensive university or not. There are some pedagogical considerations that faculty have been talking about.

2. The second category are all those fears and concerns that if we adopt something like a policy of centers of excellence, what impact will that have on some units that are unable to enhance their own revenues and what are the implications?

3. There are a whole series of questions faculty have been submitting about how VCM interacts with State allocation formulas. The committee has been discussing this. It came up at the last meeting and we will be discussing it the next one.

4. Then there are another series of questions the faculty have been asking about the management of the whole thing. In terms of how units can manage VCM and what effect it would have on things like fees in the future which people would like to attach to their units so they can increase their revenue. And, things like enrollment management and the whole geography of courses and curriculum are also at issue.

But if you have any questions about the budget or questions on VCM and you get them to me, I will do my best to answer them and get them back to you. Thank you.

PROFESSOR LANE – I just have general question about whether one of the concerns the committee is looking at is interdisciplinary programs.

PROFESSOR BERBUE – Yes, most definitely.

CHAIR AUGUSTINE – Other questions for Professor Berube? Thank you, Professor Berube.

**g. University Athletics Advisory Committee, Professor Robert Williams, Chair:**

PROFESSOR WILLIAMS (Mass Communications and Information Studies) – At the last meeting Professor Kevin Lewis raised the issue of the scheduling of a Thursday night football game, in fact this coming week, at the same time mid-term exams were scheduled. This matter was referred to the committee and if I might read you what the committee minutes says: “The Committee has considered the matter and in view of the fact there is no official designated mid-term period at the University we believe there is no basis for action by the Committee regarding scheduling issues in any sports.

However, this specific complaint did raise at least two other issues that we feel need to be considered by the President and the Faculty Senate. In the future there should be a specific process for consultation with faculty in determining last minute changes in schedules for sports events, particularly large student attendance sporting events, such as football. Secondly, while there is a designated period of time during final exams when sporting events are not scheduled it may be desirable to designate a similar time for mid-term exams. It was noted however that this could cause major serious problems in

intercollegiate sporting events scheduling because of major differences in academic schedules for mid-term exams.”

CHAIR AUGUSTINE – Anything else Professor Williams?

PROFESSOR WILLIAMS – That is it.

CHAIR AUGUSTINE – Questions for Professor Williams please? All right. Thank you, Professor Williams.

**h. Ad Hoc Committee on Salary Grievances, Professor Robert Wilcox, Chair:**

PROFESSOR WILCOX (Law) – I reported to you last month that we would be coming back to you today seeking action. The report was made available and it has been on the web as well. I hope you have had a chance to look at it. The Ad Hoc Committee on Salary Grievances met over the summer. We determined that the issue was one which we felt should continue within the faculty province of hearing grievances on salary issues. As you may recall, the difficulty was the sense of the Grievance Committee that for various reasons they were not well suited to hear these issues. Both in part because of the other workload they have, particularly in regard to tenure and promotion issues for faculty, and also their sense that they did not have, as a continuing body, the expertise or familiarity with these issues. Salary grievances were coming up almost incidental to other things they were handling. Looking at it, we felt the best solution was then to simply create another committee whose sole responsibility would be in this field. Over time, even with a revolving group, there would be some institutional memory would be able to develop enough understanding of the issues to provide some meaningful resolution to grievances. We do believe that the ultimate outcome of any grievance that is viewed as a meritorious grievance would be a recommendation to the President that the matter be addressed. There would be no authority on the part of the committee to directly remedy the grievance; there are no funds there that the committee would have access to. It would be a recommendation, much as it would be now coming out of the Grievance Committee.

So the gist of our recommendation is that the matter be referred to the Faculty Advisory Committee to draft appropriate language amending the *Faculty Manual* and if necessary, language proposed to amend Policies and Procedures to create a new committee with this mandate of hearing these grievances and also with the mandate of meeting on at least an annual basis with the Welfare Committee to raise any policy issues that may have been identified through the consideration of individual grievances. Accordingly the committee moves that this body endorse these recommendations and refer the matter to the Faculty Advisory Committee for the drafting of appropriate language with the understanding that that language would then be taken to the full faculty and go through the normal course of approval as any *Faculty Manual* change. That is the motion of the committee.

CHAIR AUGUSTINE – Is there any discussion? You got off easy Professor Wilcox. All those in favor of the motion as indicated by Professor Wilcox say aye. Those opposed say no. The motion passes. Thank you, Professor Wilcox.

**i. Other Committees:** None

**IV. Report of the Secretary.**

None.

**V. Unfinished Business.**

None.

**VI. New Business.**

None.

**VII. Report of the Officers.**

PRESIDENT ANDREW SORENSEN – Good afternoon! I’ll try it again. Good afternoon! Thank you.

I have a report from the Committee Considering Merger on creating a new College of Arts and Sciences by merging the College of Liberal Arts and the College of Science and Mathematics. It was presented to me on the end of September – September 30, 2003. One of the co-chairs, Pat Maney, Chair of the History Department is here. First, I wish to first acknowledge the huge amount of work done by the Committee, and especially by Professors Fletcher and Maney. The members of the committee are: Professor Susan Cutter, Karl Heider, Ron Prinz, Bob Thunnell, Chaden Djalali, Steve Lynn, John Spurrier and Sarah Woodin. I want to thank all of those people for their hard work in preparing this report.

This report will be posted on the University homepage [www.sc.edu](http://www.sc.edu). Then I am scheduling meetings for people from one or the other of the existing colleges. I want to make sure that I hear as much in terms of concerns and questions as I possibly can. So I am suggesting two meetings for Liberal Arts on October 9 at 3:30 p.m. and October 15 at 9 a.m. Then on October 10 at 10:15 a.m. for Science and Math and October 10 at 4 p.m. for Science and Math. The times will be announced on the link to the University homepage.

The Committee had widely announced public meetings which faculty, staff, and students attended. They listened very carefully and heard a number of questions.

I am going to read one section that precedes the list of the recommendations:

“The members of the Committee had diverse opinions on the desirability of the merger. Thoughtful reasons were expressed in favor of such a merger, and equally thoughtful arguments against. In the end, the Committee concluded that a merger, if

done under the right conditions, will stimulate interdisciplinary research and teaching, enhance research and teaching in general, enrich the undergraduate experience, and improve the administrative structure of the university. A minority of the committee believes that each of these important objectives can and should be achieved in ways other than merger.

The Committee, however, was unanimous in believing that merging the two colleges is insufficient by itself to achieve the intended goals. Furthermore, the Committee was unanimous in identifying certain requirements and conditions that would be essential for the success of a College of Arts and Sciences. The merger should only be implemented if the University is prepared to meet these requirements.”

The majority of the members of the Committee were in favor of a merger, but all of the members of the Committee (both those in favor and those opposed) said if it is going to happen it should happen only if the following conditions are met. They gave five essential requirements for a successful merger under the rubric Strengthening Research and Scholarship, and then they gave three under the rubric of Instructional Enhancement. I had a long meeting with the Committee and I agreed to every one of those stipulations or essential requirements. I am not going to through and read all of them because they will be available to you on the web and if you want to get a hard copy, I will provide a hard copy for you just call my office: 777-2931. If you want to talk to me about it, I would be happy to do so. My e-mail address is: [Sorensen@gwm.sc.edu](mailto:Sorensen@gwm.sc.edu). I will be happy to respond to e-mail or by telephone or come in and see me. I will be as responsive as I can.

The third recommendation under Strengthening Research and Scholarship is the only one I want to make sure that I call to your attention. The first sentence of the third recommendation under A says: “A raise pool for faculty and staff is absolutely critical for advancement to occur, not only for a College of Arts and Sciences but also throughout the University.” I want you to know that I endorse that wholeheartedly and enthusiastically. I want to make sure that you see that last phrase there “but also throughout the University.” So this is not a pitch for these two colleges to get raises for themselves and not for others. They were very thoughtful about that. Are there any questions about the merger or the report? I propose to present this to the Board of Trustees on October 17<sup>th</sup>. So I want to make sure that I have ample opportunity hear all of the pros and cons and concerns. Professor Berube met with our budget committee regularly last year and I’d be happy to meet with his committee has well, to discuss any of these budget issues. There is a fair amount of anxiety about VCM which are reflected in some of the merger committee recommendations.

I received a request from the Governor to submit three scenarios for cuts in our budget, in addition to the 1% cut that we have already received this fiscal year, one for 3%, one for 5% and one for 7% on top of the 9.88% cut that we took July 1<sup>st</sup>. The message from the Budget and Control Board is very clear and, of course, this is the dilemma that we face – how do we deal with these multi-million dollar cuts and still deal with the issue of faculty and staff being underpaid and not adequately compensated for

their work? Professor Berube, I earnestly suggest that if you have wisdom about this matter please share it with me because I am in dire need of solid advice.

Regarding the Provost Search Committee I am talking with some people about serving on that committee and those conversations are not complete. As soon as they are, I will announce that on the USC homepage as well. Are there any questions about any of these matters or other issues that I have failed to address? Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIR AUGUSTINE – Thank you, Mr. President.

PROVOST JERRY ODOM – Thank you Mr. Chair. To bring you up to date on two searches that are currently on going. We have a search for a Vice President for Research and Health Sciences. Three people have been on campus and we have one more person. Dr. David Pleasure, who is head of the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia and a faculty member at the University of Pennsylvania, will be here Monday and Tuesday. Dr. Pleasure is the last candidate we plan to bring to campus. Let me just ask you to please talk to your colleagues. We have one session that we have scheduled for the entire faculty for each of these candidates. We have tried to have it in a central location at a time that people can attend – it is in McKissick Museum Auditorium and all of these have been scheduled at 4 p.m. This one is Monday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. at McKissick. The attendance at those has been very poor. I really would encourage you to talk to your colleagues about trying to attend this presentation. It gives you a chance to hear some of the ideas of the candidates with respect to our research operation and it gives you the chance to ask questions as well as to personally meet these individuals.

The second search is the Dean of the Law School Search. Two candidates will be in next week. Those are the last two that will be interviewed and I know the search committee hopes to give the President three names very shortly thereafter.

Also I want to report the opening of the Child Research and Development Center on September 25<sup>th</sup>. They would like very much to have any faculty that are interested in doing research in the area of child development come down, have a look at the operation, and have a good look at the second floor which is the research floor.

Finally, I have to brag a little bit, I have a press release here that says Carolina Debate Team Ranked #1 in USA. (Clapping) We need to recognize the advisor and the coach – David Berube. The debate team of Prince-Shipman are ranked number one in the USA in parliamentary debating according to the National Parliamentary Tournament of Excellence Committee. The National Parliamentary Debate Association ranks programs, the entire program not just the teams. We have three teams and the Prince-Shipman team are ranked number one but our entire program should be ranked according to David in the top five when the next rankings come out. So David, thank you very much. You are doing a great job. (Clapping)

CHAIR AUGUSTINE – Any questions for the Provost?

### **VIII. Good of the Order.**

PROFESSOR WISE – Are there any additional nominations for the vacancy on the Faculty Budget Committee?

CHAIR AUGUSTINE – Davis Baird has been nominated for the vacancy on the Budget Committee by the Senate Steering Committee. Are there any more nominations?

PRESIDENT SORENSEN – Davis Baird is a professor of Philosophy who is a recipient of National Science Foundation of a \$1.3 million grant.

CHAIR AUGUSTINE – Thank you Mr. President. There being no other nominations, Davis Baird is declared elected to the Faculty Budget Committee.

### **X. Announcements.**

CHAIR AUGUSTINE – Zachary Scott from the Student Government is here. Zachary do you have any comments for my colleagues?

ZACHERY SCOTT (Vice President of Student Body) – Very quickly. Myself and different committee chairs are going to try and make it every month to attend these meetings. Sometimes we will have announcements and sometimes we won't. If there is ever something within the Gamecock, the news, the buzz on campus, etc. that you have a question about that you want a student perspective of what is going on within Student Government; by all means please come and ask us. Not just at the meetings but at Student Government our doors are always open to faculty and staff as well.

One thing that our Academics Committee is working on, I know this is always a fun topic, is on-line syllabi. We have been approached by the administration to cut down on the flux of students going in and out of the classes after the beginning of each semester. So to do that you have one of two choices, in our opinion, you can either extend the drop/add date, which I don't think very many people want to do. Or, you can have more syllabi posted on-line. That is the option we'd like to take. The program is already setup on Blackboard so it is not really a logistical problem it is mainly just getting the professors to post on-line. We have been having meetings with all the deans – trying to take more of a top down approach – in strongly encouraging every faculty member to post on-line. If you have any questions about that, by all means see me after the meeting. I would love to work with you guys if possible. Thank you.

CHAIR AUGUSTINE – Thank you, Mr. Scott. The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be November 5<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. Is there a motion to adjourn? Second? All those in favor say aye. All those opposed no. The meeting is declared adjourned. Thank you very much.