

**FACULTY SENATE MEETING**  
**February 2, 2005**

Before calling the meeting to order, Chair James R. Augustine took a moment to convey some background information regarding a survey that had been handed out at the door. The survey was being conducted by students who are members of the USC Bateman team, a highly competitive national team competition that addresses public relations issues at a professional level. This year, the USC Bateman campaign focuses on education and ethics and involves three audiences: students, student athletes, and faculty. For the faculty audience, the goal is to increase faculty support of ethical policy regarding students and athletes. The campaign's research includes surveying the Senate on current attitudes and implementation of the Carolinian Creed. Dr. Augustine thanked the Senators for taking time to complete the surveys.

**1. and 2. Call to Order and Approval of Minutes**

Chair Augustine called the meeting to order and asked for corrections to the minutes of the December 1, 2004 meeting. There were no corrections and the minutes were approved as written.

**3. Reports of Committees**

**a. Faculty Senate Steering Committee, Laura Kane, Secretary**

Chair Augustine introduced Laura Kane, Secretary of the Faculty, and explained that Professor Wise, the former Secretary, is no longer with the University. Professor Kane (School of Medicine Library) reported that the Steering Committee met on January 26 to set a slate of nominees for vacancies on committees for 2005-2006. The Faculty Senate will vote on the slate of nominees at the March 2nd meeting. Nominations will be taken from the floor at that time. Professor Kane asked that anyone planning to make a nomination from the floor should obtain approval from the nominee before the March 2nd meeting.

**b. Committee on Admissions, Don Stowe, Chair**

On behalf of the Committee on Admissions and the Committee on Scholastic Standards and Petitions, Professor Stowe (Hospitality, Retail, & Sport Management) presented a proposal regarding changes in curriculum for the School of Journalism and Mass Communications [see Attachment 2, pp. 26-27]. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

**c. Committee on Curricula and Courses, Victor Giurgiutiu, Chair**

Professor Giurgiutiu (Mechanical Engineering) presented changes in curriculum and/or courses within the following colleges: the College of Education, the College of Engineering and Information Technology, the College of Liberal Arts, the College of Mass Communications and Information Studies, the School of Music, and the College of Science and Mathematics [see Attachment 1]. Two changes were made on page 14 of Attachment 1: “CLIS” was changed to “SLIS” to reflect a change in designator. A vote was taken for each separate motion. All motions passed.

**d. Committee on Scholastic Standards and Petitions, Carl Evans, Chair**

Professor Evans (Religious Studies) indicated that this committee’s report was covered by the joint report given previously by Professor Stowe.

**e. Faculty Advisory Committee, Timir Datta, Chair**

Professor Datta (Physics & Astronomy) stated that the Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC) met several times during the last semester and considered three topics: The change in the charge of the University Athletics Advisory Committee; the wording of the Faculty Manual regarding a change in title of the Dean of Libraries; and the recommendation of the Intellectual Property Committee regarding the patents and copyright policy. The FAC approved all of the considered changes and President Sorensen was notified. The items will be presented for the General Faculty’s approval on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2005.

**f. Faculty Budget Committee, Davis Baird, Chair**

Professor Baird was unable to attend the meeting.

**g. Faculty Welfare Committee, Linda Allman, Chair**

Professor Allman (Continuing Education) reported that Charles Bierbauer, Dean of the College of Mass Communications and Information Studies, met with the Faculty Welfare Committee (FWC) in his capacity as Chair of the Council of Academic Deans to discuss the summer compensation policy. Bierbauer discussed Section D of HR 1.81 which gives academic deans full discretion in determining remuneration when faculty supervise an “unusually large” number of students with theses and dissertations. He promised to talk to the Council of Academic Deans about the possibility of individual colleges establishing guidelines for remunerating summer employment so that there might be some basic standards, and then report back to the FWC.

Professor Allman also stated that the FWC unanimously adopted a limited-hour Wellness Center membership proposal received from Jerry Brewer, Director of Student Life, in response to the committee’s request. The proposal would give faculty and staff the option of a limited-hour membership to the Wellness Center, allowing access from 6:00 am to 1:00 pm on weekdays and all day Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays for a fee of \$20 per month beginning July 1, 2005. Staff of the Wellness Center are developing a

marketing program to inform the campus community of this development and will report their progress at the March or April FWC meeting.

Finally, Professor Allman reported that the FWC has been gathering information on the Family Leave policies that include parental leave for SEC and non-SEC institutions. Discussions on these issues will resume at the FWC's February 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

#### **h. University Athletics Advisory Committee, William Bearden, Chair**

Professor Bearden (Moore School of Business) shared with the Senate the following items:

- Mark Berson, the head coach for the men's soccer team, attended the last University Athletics Advisory Committee (UAAC) meeting and gave a positive report regarding USC athletes who have gone on to successful careers in business, health care, and education.
- Harold White, Associate Athletics Director for Academic Support, began a report on how USC's facilities and level of support for athletes stack up against other SEC schools. That discussion will be continued at the next UAAC meeting.
- Valerie Shealy, the Senior Associate Athletics Director, met with the UAAC regarding the response to the Clemson incident. A number of issues were discussed.
- The UAAC was called upon to help with the interview for the Head Volleyball Coach.
- President Sorensen's office and Mike McGee's office contacted Professor Bearden to get input from the UAAC regarding a change in date for the season's first football game.
- The Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics Conference was held in Nashville in January. The coalition has produced a draft document entitled "Academic Integrity in Intercollegiate Athletics: Principles, Rules, and Best Practices." The UAAC plans to examine the document to see if portions of it might be useful to strengthen USC athletics procedures and attitudes. The UAAC may propose that the Faculty Senate approve the document "in spirit" but not necessarily all the specifics within the document.
- Coach Tanner will be attending the next UAAC meeting.
- The UAAC is investigating ways to improve the interface between USC and Clemson at both the athletic and academic levels.
- The UAAC will be discussing drug testing procedures for all the athletes. At a future meeting, Russ Pate, the Faculty Athletics Representative of the University, will discuss the special admissions process for prospective student athletes.

### **4. Reports of Officers**

#### **President Andrew Sorensen**

President Andrew Sorensen commended the USC Aiken faculty, staff, and students for their heroic efforts to assist families who were effected by the tragic train accident in Graniteville.

He also conveyed his thanks to Professor Berube and the debate team for having recently secured a number one position in a debate tournament.

President Sorensen then discussed the various searches that are currently underway; namely, the Athletics Director search and the searches for the deans of Nursing, Public Health, and Social Work. There have been a number of highly qualified people who have expressed interest in the Athletics Director position. More details on the other searches will be covered by the reports of the Vice President for Research & Health Sciences and the Provost.

The President recently received a request from ESPN to move the date of the first football game, previously scheduled for Saturday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, to Thursday night, September 1<sup>st</sup>. Ever aware of the faculty's sensitivity to the issue, he immediately contacted Professor Augustine and asked him to refer the matter to the University Athletics Advisory Committee. With that committee's approval, the President then notified ESPN that the change in date was acceptable.

The President gave a report on a breakfast he had hosted for members of the House of Representatives of the General Assembly, during which he mentioned his concerns, goals, and various problems the University is facing during the coming year. Later in the morning, he presented USC's budget to the Higher Education Subcommittee. The concerns President Sorensen expressed included the importance of increasing faculty and staff compensation, which in his opinion is currently not adequate. In light of a proposed 2.5% cut in USC's budget, the President feels that attempting to give pay raises will be extremely difficult. He is working fervently not to have the 2.5% cut levied. The President reports that he is receiving some positive support from the leadership of the House and the Senate.

The President said that a bond issue (which normally would fund capital projects) is unlikely for this year, but that there is some talk of having a very substantial increase in the bond issue next year. The rumor is that if USC doesn't get a bond issue approved this year, next year we will receive a more substantial one than we would have expected this year. The President hopes that will indeed be the case. He shared with the House of Representatives that 95% of USC's current freshman students are on some form of lottery scholarship - Life, Hope, or Palmetto Scholarship. This is a huge source of support for USC's students and is an indication that a large number of students require financial support to enable them to attend the University of South Carolina. Several legislators joined President Sorensen at the podium, and he was surprised and immensely pleased with the support he received.

Finally, the President pleaded for continued support of the Endowed Chairs Program since a proposal has been made to reduce that budget by a third. He argued that with our

faculty hiring programs and the plan to bring in 100 faculty per year for six consecutive years, it is imperative that we sustain funding for the Centers of Excellence and for this faculty program.

### **Vice President Harris Pastides**

Vice President Harris Pastides (Office of Research & Health Sciences) reported on the progress of the three dean searches in the Division of Health Sciences:

- The search committee for the dean of the Arnold School of Public Health is chaired by Dean Larry Faulkner. The Vice President hopes to be able to make an announcement on the committee's decision within two weeks.
- The search for the dean of the College of Social Work is being chaired by Dean Pat Moody. Some very good candidates have applied, and the search committee is starting to conduct telephone interviews. The committee hopes to have three finalists on campus within the next month.
- The search for the dean of the College of Nursing is being headed by Dean Paul Willis. The committee is currently in a screening phase.

Vice President Pastides hopes to have deans on board in order to have an orderly transition from the retirements of Dean Ginsberg and Dean Parsons to the new deans.

### **Provost Mark Becker**

Provost Becker gave an update on the searches for deans of the Honors College and the School of Music. The Honors College search committee is chaired by Dean Coull and the School of Music search committee is co-chaired by Dean Powell of the Law School and Professor Pruzin in the School of Music. Both positions have been advertised and applications are arriving in good numbers.

The Provost reported that currently there is some duplication of effort taking place as a result of the overlap of duties of the Faculty Budget Committee and the VCM Committee of the University. Both existing committees address matters of budget. The issue is being examined, and may result in a proposal to consolidate the two committees into a single one.

The Faculty Advisory Committee will soon discuss the creation of an ombudsperson within the University. In his first semester at USC, the Provost found that a number of matters were brought to his attention because of the fact that there was not an unbiased person to whom these issues could be brought forward. The Provost feels that this is a role an ombudsperson would fill. The Faculty Advisory Committee will be examining various ombudsperson models in an effort to determine what model would best serve the University.

Lastly, the Provost reported that he plans to meet with the UCTP to discuss some revisions to the Faculty Manual. There are some consistency issues regarding tenure and promotion documents that could be resolved by tightening up the language in the Faculty Manual.

#### **5. Report of the Secretary**

Professor Kane made a motion to discontinue sending out the printed Faculty Senate minutes and handouts to all Senators, and instead send out one-page agendas which would include information on how to access that information on Faculty Senate website. Many objections to this motion were raised by the Senators. A vote was taken and the motion failed.

#### **6. and 7. Unfinished and New Business**

There was no unfinished or new business.

#### **8. Announcements**

There were no announcements.

#### **9. Adjournment**

The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be on Wednesday, March 3, 2005 at 3:00 p.m. in the Law School Auditorium. A motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting.