

FACULTY SENATE MEETING
April 26, 2005

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

Chair James R. Augustine called the meeting to order and asked for corrections to the minutes of the March 2, 2005 meeting. There were no corrections and the minutes were approved as written.

3. Reports of Committees

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

Professor Kane (School of Medicine Library) presented Edsel Peña as a nominee for a vacancy on the Faculty Grievance Committee. The floor was opened for additional nominations for that vacancy.

b. Committee on Admissions, Professor Don Stowe, Chair

Professor Stowe (Hospitality, Retail, & Sport Management) reported that there are more qualified applicants than there are spaces for incoming freshman. He discussed some proposed changes to the admissions process. Beginning in the fall of 2006, freshman applicants will be asked additional questions regarding high school activities, leadership activities, activities outside of school, honors or awards received, and special talents or work experiences. Information on parent/guardian education will be collected, and there will be an option for a personal statement from applicants.

The Committee on Admissions has recommended to the President (and will be recommending to the Faculty Advisory Committee) that the University's Mission Statement be evaluated and re-written to more clearly express the University's values concerning inclusion and diversity.

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

Professor Giurgiutiu (Mechanical Engineering) presented changes in curriculum and/or courses within the following colleges: College of Arts and Sciences, Moore School of Business, College of Education, College of Engineering and Information Technology, College of Hospitality, Retail and Sport Management, and College of Mass Communications and Information Studies [see Attachment 1].

A typo was noted under section A, Moore School of Business: the crosslisting IBUS 406 should be changed to MGMT 406 [see Attachment 1, page 15].

There was some discussion regarding the title of a proposed course, "Information Management," under Management Science in the Moore School of Business [see

Attachment 1, page 18, section C]. A motion was made to change the course title to “Business Information Management.”

A vote was taken for each separate motion. All motions passed.

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

No report.

e. Faculty Advisory Committee, Professor Timir Datta, Chair

No report.

f. Faculty Budget Committee, Professor Davis Baird, Chair

Professor Baird (Philosophy) reported that the Faculty Budget Committee has been re-evaluating its purpose and has submitted to the Faculty Advisory Committee proposed changes to the Faculty Manual regarding the purpose of the committee. The proposed language follows:

“This committee serves as a liaison between the University Administration and the University Faculty (through the Faculty Senate) on matters pertaining to the University budget, advocates the faculty perspective on matters of budget and budgetary policy, and provides a venue for discussing faculty questions and concerns about the University budget and budgeting process. To accomplish its purpose, the Faculty Budget Committee shall have input to University budget policy. The Chair of the Faculty Budget Committee and the Chair-elect shall serve as voting members on the University-level budget policy committee.”

g. Faculty Welfare Committee, Professor Linda Allman, Chair

Professor Allman (Continuing Education) described the new Faculty Benefits page available at <http://www.sc.edu/faculty/benefit.shtml>. The Faculty Welfare Committee met with Jane Jameson and Jeff Cargile from the Division of Human Resources to discuss various HR issues as related to benefits. The idea of issuing a \$200 benefit for comprehensive physicals is still being explored at this time. Also, beyond the provisions of the federal Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), the University has no additional Parental Leave Policy. Tenure-track faculty do, however, have the option of stopping the tenure clock during any period of FMLA under the ACAF 1.31 policy. The HR staff has agreed to speak at the fall General Faculty meeting about benefits issues.

The Strom Thurmond Wellness Center will begin its Early Bird Gamecock Special July 1st For \$240 a year, faculty can enjoy access to the Wellness Center during certain times of the day and during holidays. The Center will also be instituting a 30-day trial for new faculty and for faculty who are not currently members.

h. University Athletics Advisory Committee, Professor William Bearden, Chair

Professor Bearden (Moore School of Business) reported that the University Athletics Advisory Committee had several guests at its last two meetings, including: Shelley Smith from women's soccer; Jason Pappas, Director of Academic Support, who made a presentation about the new NCAA Academic Progress Report; Val Sheley, Associate Athletic Director and Senior Women's Administrator, who presented data about Division I graduation rates and summarized a U.S. Department of Education document about athletic department policies and expenditures; and Athletics Director Mike McGee, who provided a summary of athletic team performance for the Spring 2005 semester.

The committee discussed the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics document entitled "Academic Integrity in Intercollegiate Athletics," and agreed to meet with representatives from the Athletics Department during the summer to try to identify policies in this document that may need to be adopted by the UAAC and Athletics Department.

Professor Bearden thanked Val Sheley, Associate Athletic Director and Senior Women's Administrator, for her help to the committee.

4. Reports of Officers

President Andrew Sorensen

President Sorensen thanked the University Committee on Tenure and Promotion for playing such a pivotal role in articulating and defining the criteria for the retention and promotion of faculty members. He also conveyed his thanks to the Committee on Admissions for their new admissions process proposal.

The President reported that the quality and quantity of applicants for admission for the fall of 2005 is unprecedented in the history of the University. There are over 13,100 applicants for 3,400 freshman openings. SAT scores and grade point averages are higher than they have ever been, and the applicants have extensive accomplishments and involvement in extracurricular activities. The President thanked the Admissions Office for their creative efforts in marketing the University.

President Sorensen's last Bow Tie Bus Tour was to Greenville High School. He was extremely pleased to find that he was received by over a hundred students there, all of whom expressed keen interest in the University. At a cocktail party in Augusta hosted by an alumnus of USC, he spoke with prospective students who spoke highly about the friendly and accessible environment they have found on their visits to the University.

The President asked Dean Paul Willis and Vice President Harris Pastides to report on the Nursing School Dean search and the Social Work Dean search, respectively. Dean Willis (Libraries) reported that there are three candidates coming for interviews for the Nursing School Dean position. Vice President Pastides (Office of Research and Health

Sciences) reported that he is in the final stages of negotiation with a candidate for the College of Social Work Dean position.

President Sorensen remarked on successful negotiations with the legislature with respect to support for the University. This year, the legislature has: increased the average compensation for faculty and staff by 4 percent; provided additional money for deferred maintenance; provided \$1 million of recurring money for hydrogen research; and provided \$1 million per year for nanotechnology research.

Pending approval from various legislative and governmental bodies, the University will soon begin construction on five research buildings on the research campus, a project totaling 550,000 square feet and two parking garages accommodating 2000 cars.

The President reported that he is awaiting a recommendation from the Police Department regarding safety and security concerns at USC. He appealed to the faculty on behalf of the Police Chief to report any theft or damage to property in order that there be an accurate count of such incidences.

Provost Mark Becker

Provost Becker reported that four candidates for the South Carolina Honors College Dean position have been interviewed. Three candidates have been interviewed for the Music Dean position. The Engineering College Dean search will begin shortly.

The Provost congratulated all faculty who won awards at the General Faculty meeting, and encouraged the continued nomination of outstanding colleagues in future years. He described the annual event at the Office of Scholarships and Fellowships at which 22 national-level awards were presented to USC students. He thanked the faculty for their mentoring efforts and for their help in advancing our students on the national stage.

The Provost took a moment to remark to the Chair that, given the recent accomplishment of the Gamecock Equestrian team, his record of being associated with institutions that earn NCAA national championships remains intact. In reply, the Chair noted that, alas, equestrian is not an officially recognized NCAA sport, and that perhaps the Provost might be successful next year.

5. Report of the Secretary

Professor Kane reminded the Chair that the floor was still open for nominations to the Faculty Grievance Committee. Chair Augustine called for additional nominations. There were none. The nominations were closed and Professor Peña was elected to serve on that committee.

6. and 7. Unfinished and New Business

There was no unfinished or new business.

8. Announcements

Chair Augustine read a statement thanking Professor Sarah Wise, who recently retired, for her service as Secretary of the Faculty Senate. The Chair then announced that the next Faculty Senate meeting will be on Wednesday, June 22nd at 3:30 p.m.

9. Adjournment

A motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting.