

FACULTY SENATE MEETING
June 22, 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 April 26, 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

No report.

b. Committee on Admissions, Professor Don Stowe, Chair

No report.

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, College of Engineering and Information Technology, College of Mass Communications and Information Studies, and the College of Nursing [see Attachment 1, pages 8-11]. Under Section 4, regarding the new course within the College of Nursing (NURS 504), a motion was made and passed to change the title and description to the following: “Emergency Preparedness: Implications for Healthcare Professionals. Principles of emergency preparedness with implications for healthcare at the local, regional, national, and global levels” [see Attachment 1, page 11].

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

On behalf of the Faculty Budget Committee, Professor John McDermott (Moore School of Business) presented a recommended change 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 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 formal representation on, and input to university budget policy. The Chair of the Faculty Budget Committee and the Chair of the Faculty Senate shall serve as voting members on the University-level budget policy committee.”

This proposed change to the Faculty Manual will be forwarded to the Faculty Advisory Committee for their approval.

g. Faculty Welfare Committee, Professor Linda Allman, Chair

On behalf of Professor Linda Allman, Chair Augustine read a report of the Faculty Welfare Committee. At its May 18th meeting, the committee elected Marja Warehime as its new chair. During the past few months, the committee focused on issues related to preventive health care, tuition waivers, and parental leave policies. A proposal to add preventive care to the State Health Plan is being crafted and will be presented to University Administration. The issue of tuition assistance for faculty dependents is problematic due to the potential cost involved. The committee will further explore this matter, as well as the matter of parental leave.

Flu shots were made available to faculty members who contributed to the Family Fund. 77 faculty members took advantage of this offer at a cost of \$1155. This amount was covered by the Family Fund.

In her written report, Professor Allman thanked the members of the Faculty Welfare Committee for their hard work and dedication.

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

Professor Bearden (Moore School of Business) reported that USC had 89 student athletes on the 2005 SEC Spring Academic Honor Roll.

Professor Bearden will meet with Chair Augustine and Athletics Department officials to review the document from the Coalition of Intercollegiate Athletics, entitled “Academic Integrity in Intercollegiate Athletics.” They will attempt to identify policies in the document that may need to be adopted by the UAAC or the Athletics Department.

4. Reports of Officers

President Andrew Sorensen

President Sorensen reported that he participated in the swearing in of David Wilkins as the new U.S. Ambassador to Canada. During his term as Speaker of the House of Representatives in the

S.C. General Assembly, Wilkins was extremely supportive of the University of South Carolina. He has been replaced by Bobby Harrell, a USC alumnus.

The President summarized his recent trip to China. He, Provost Becker, Dean Pat Moody, and several other USC faculty members traveled to Beijing, Shanghai, and Hong Kong in an effort to develop ties with various Universities there. They received a warm reception and encountered strong interest in the notion of faculty and student exchanges. The Olympic Games are scheduled to be held in Beijing in 2008, and is it Dean Moody's goal to find opportunities for several hundred USC students to work as interns at that event. There will also be an Expo in Shanghai in 2010 which might provide additional internship and employment opportunities for USC students and graduates. President Sorensen described his fascinating encounter with the General Secretary of the Communist Party for the Beijing province. The encounter as he described it illustrated the curious mixture of entrepreneurial spirit and Communist ideals common in China.

President Sorensen reported that USC is expecting 3700 freshmen in the fall – the largest freshman class in the history of the University. This group has the highest average SAT score in USC history. A scholarship program called the “Capstone Scholars” has been established for those students who have high SAT scores but are not accepted into the Honors College. There will be at least 300 Capstone Scholars in the freshman class. In addition, there are more out-of-state residents in the freshman class than ever before, an indication that USC's academic reputation is rising. Although increased enrollment is good news, it raises the issue of faculty/student ratio. There have been 92 retirements or resignations this year, and 108 new faculty have been hired. This presents a net increase of 16 faculty beginning in the fall. The President, the Provost, and Dr. Pastides are continuing to work with their respective Deans on the issue of faculty/student ratio.

The President reported that the General Assembly provided for a 4% increase on average in salaries for both faculty and staff. USC's budget was only cut by \$272 thousand out of a legislative appropriation for the system in excess of \$200 million. The administration proposed to the Board of Trustees Executive Committee a 12.3% increase in tuition. This would generate \$13.5 million. This amount will be used to cover: the 4% salary increase; the hiring of new faculty; adding faculty slots and providing start-up funds for new faculty; improvement of USC's Information Technology system; additional IT security (there were over 3000 breaches of computer security this past year); additional slots for law enforcement officers and an increase in salary for law enforcement officers; and the University's utility bill.

A proposal for \$142 million in funding for the Research Campus was presented to the Board of Trustees. The sources of this funding are outlined below:

- The City of Columbia and the Richland County Council have given \$33.9 million to build 2400 spaces in two parking garages. One 1400-vehicle garage will be built next to the Department of Transportation building, and another 1000-vehicle garage will be built at the corner of Wheat and Assembly. There is a third 1000-vehicle garage already under construction at the corner of Bull and Blossom Streets. This will result in a combined total of 3400 additional parking spaces over the next two years.

- On June 14th, the Budget and Control Board voted in support of giving \$58 million for the Research Campus from the Life Sciences Act.
- USC's developer, Craig Davis and Associates, is putting up \$26 million for two "spec" buildings. Firms of knowledge-driven industries will be invited to rent space in order to offset construction costs.
- The University received \$6 million in U.S. Government grants for the construction of faculty-operated laboratories in the two buildings.
- \$17 million has been generated from indirect cost recovery from faculty-generated grants.

President Sorensen took a moment to thank Professor Augustine for his capable, thoughtful, and superb leadership as Chair of the Faculty Senate.

Vice President Harris Pastides (Office of Research and Health Sciences)

Vice President Pastides announced that the search committee for the College of Nursing Dean has come up with a final slate of names. Similarly, the search committee for the NanoCenter Director has presented a slate of three names. Vice President Pastides hopes to be able to conclude appointments for both of these positions within the next several weeks. Dean Donna Richter is chairing the Pharmacy Dean search (Campus Dean, Columbia).

Provost Mark Becker

Provost Becker gave updates on the University's remaining administrative searches. Professor Tayloe Harding, presently at Valdosta State University, has been appointed Dean of the School of Music. Professor Davis Baird, who has been an active faculty member in the Honors College for many years, has accepted the offer to be Dean of the Honors College. The search committee for the Dean of Engineering has been formed and will be co-chaired by Professor Tangali Sudarshan (College of Electrical Engineering) and Professor Mary Anne Fitzpatrick (Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences). The Provost is accepting nominations for the position of interim dean. He hopes to have an interim dean appointed soon.

The Provost offered his thanks and congratulations to Chair Augustine for his leadership and service to the Faculty Senate.

5. Report of the Secretary

No report.

6. and 7. Unfinished and New Business

There was no unfinished or new business.

8. Announcements

President Sorensen invited the faculty to an art exhibit at McKissick Museum.

Professor Jerald Wallulis (Philosophy) requested that the Faculty Senate consider taking another look at the survey of faculty attitudes, taken in 2000-2001, to determine whether another similar survey should be initiated. The incoming Chair of the Faculty Welfare Committee will take this request under consideration.

Professor Hoyt Wheeler (Moore School of Business) called the faculty's attention to recent developments concerning those faculty and staff enrolled in the TERI program. A Class Action lawsuit has been filed by four members of the Department of Health and Environmental Control. One of the lawyers listed on the lawsuit is Richard Harpootlian. Chair Augustine will email further details to whomever is interested, and he encouraged the faculty to contact their State Legislators to convey their concern over this matter.

Chair Augustine read a memorial of Elmer G. Schwartz on behalf of Professor David Waugh, former Dean of Engineering.

Chair Augustine announced that the next meeting, which will be held on September 7, 2005, at approximately 3 p.m., will be chaired by Dr. Gene Reeder.

9. Adjournment

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