

FACULTY SENATE MEETING
October 5, 2005

1. Call to Order

Chair Gene Reeder called to order the meeting of the Faculty Senate of the University of South Carolina of October 5, 2005.

2. Approval of Minutes

There were no corrections and the minutes were approved as written.

3. Reports of Committees

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

Senators were asked to record their attendance on one of the two sign-in sheets posted at the back of the room.

Professor Kane announced that the Steering Committee has appointed Briana Timmerman (Biological Sciences) and Mark Tompkins (Political Science) to fill two one-year vacancies on the Instructional Development Committee.

The Steering Committee placed in nomination the following:

- Jill Michels (Pharmacy) and Dan Sabia (Political Science) to fill two three-year vacancies on the Committee on Libraries
- Kin Blackburn (Economics) to fill one three-year vacancy on the Faculty Grievance Committee

The floor was opened for further nominations to these two committees.

Chair Reeder encouraged faculty to volunteer to serve on Faculty Senate committees when the Committee Volunteer Form is sent out in November.

b. 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 Hospitality, Retail, and Sport Management; and the Regional Campuses. An errata sheet was distributed indicating the following: on page 10 [Attachment 1], under RELG 369, “focuses” should be changed to “focused”; on page 10, under RELG 342, the cross-listing should read “[=AFRO 342]” instead of “[=RELG 342]”; and on page 29, under PALM 493, “student’s manor” should be changed to “student’s major.” A vote was taken for each separate motion. All motions passed with the exception of the proposed curriculum changes for the Regional Campuses. The changes within the Regional Campuses section (pages 26-29) will be referred back to the committee for the resolution of issues.

c. Faculty Budget Committee, Professor John McDermott, Chair

Professor John McDermott (Moore School of Business) reported that the Faculty Budget Committee will be writing a report clarifying the recent evolution and structure of the University budget. The report will focus on two areas: the increasing importance of grants and contracts in the University's budgeting process, and the current method of fund allocation among University units.

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

Professor Bearden (Moore School of Business) reported that at the committee's last meeting, Russ Pate (Exercise Science) presented an overview of the policies and procedures associated with the special admissions process. All but one of the University's "special admits" are in satisfactory standing.

Eric Hyman (Director of Athletics) and Rod Walters (Assistant AD/Sports Medicine) spoke to the committee about the changes in the drug program. Professor Bearden announced that Eric Hyman will be attending the November Faculty Senate meeting to speak on those matters.

e. Bookstore Committee, Professor Jeff Persels, Chair

Professor Persels (Languages, Literatures, and Cultures) introduced Tommy Preston, Student Body Treasurer, and Andy Shaffer, the General Manager of the University Bookstore. Mr. Preston brought forward to the Senate various concerns originating from the student body regarding the high cost of textbooks and the lack of a "one-stop shop" for course textbooks. Mr. Preston urged the faculty to: work with Russell House Bookstore or the University Bookstore so that students, particularly disabled students, may purchase textbooks and course packets all at once; support the use of used textbooks and switch to newer editions only when necessary; and require the purchase of bundled textbooks *only* if all multimedia items will be used. Mr. Shaffer spoke about recent improvements at the University Bookstore and stressed the need to make all required textbooks available for purchase there.

4. Reports of Officers

President Andrew Sorensen

President Sorensen thanked Mr. Preston and Mr. Shaffer for the information they shared and complimented the Student Government Association on their extraordinarily able leadership.

The President gave an update on fundraising efforts for Hurricane Katrina survivors. In addition to the SEC's \$1 million donation to the American Red Cross, \$33,000 was raised at the USC/Alabama game. Prior to that, a group of coaches led by Coach Dave Odom donated \$15,000 in cash from their own salaries to the Katrina Relief efforts. Recently, the President hosted a Hurricane Katrina fundraising concert showcasing student talent. A spirit of generosity

was evident among USC students and faculty, and even among Koger Center staff, who donated their time and talent for that event.

Over 1,900 Katrina evacuees have been processed through USC facilities thus far, and the President thanked the faculty and staff for their warm reception of the hurricane survivors. President Sorensen, a self-proclaimed sentimentalist, finds the singularly “American” phenomenon of vastly different cultures working together for a common good very touching and inspiring.

At a recent conference on fuel cell research, President Sorensen hosted a panel consisting of 50% of the state’s congressional delegation. The panel extolled USC’s status of being one of the nation’s leading universities with respect to fuel cell research. The President chose this public venue to point out that generous federal and state contributions to fuel cell research programs and other University programs might be in order.

Another season of the Bow Tie Bus Tours began at Dutch Fork High School in Irmo on October 3rd. The Tour stopped for coffee in Pomaria, South Carolina, and continued on to the Clemson Rotary Club, where the President addressed a “sea of orange Rotarians.” President Sorensen happily accepted an invitation to play his trumpet along with the Clemson Tigers Marching Band at their practice session, fully expecting the practice to be held in a nondescript setting. He was surprised to find himself walking with his trumpet across the Clemson practice football field flanked by eager photographers and reporters. Politely refusing to play “Tiger Rag,” the President joined the band in playing a “nice jazz tune.” He later accepted the band’s gift of an orange and purple hat, but wisely opted not to put it on.

The President and Mrs. Sorensen hosted a reception for 400 international students. USC continues to attract a large number of international students who are warmly received and made to feel welcome within the University’s community.

There are two searches underway. Joel Smith, Dean of the Moore School of Business, will chair the search committee for the position of Vice President for Advancement. There is also a search under way for the Law School Dean (addressed below by Provost Becker).

President Sorensen met with Bobby Harrell, Speaker of the House, and Chip Limehouse, Chair of the Higher Education Subcommittee of the Education Committee in the House (both of whom are USC alumni) to reinforce the University’s budgetary needs in preparation for January’s General Assembly session. The President hopes that presenting budgetary needs in unison with the presidents of MUSC and Clemson University will be a successful initiative.

The President thanked Professor McDermott for his work with the Faculty Budget Committee, and conveyed his desire to make the University’s budgeting process more transparent and readily understood by all.

Provost Mark Becker

Provost Becker joined the President and Chair Reeder in congratulating the Student Government leaders for their excellent work and contributions.

The Provost noted that USC's next accreditation date will be in 2011. A consultant has been brought in to review the SACS accreditation expectations and to help prepare the University for the accreditation process.

The Law School has elected representatives to serve on the search committee for the dean of the Law School. The search for the dean of the College of Engineering is underway.

Vice President Harris Pastides (Office of Research and Health Sciences) announced that the search for the dean of the South Carolina College of Pharmacy will be readvertised.

Provost Becker announced that the SECAC (Southeastern Conference Academic Consortium) provosts met for the first time as an official body at the University of Georgia. The group will be issuing an RFP for a host institution. The SECAC will pursue two academic collaborations: the sharing of Study Abroad programs and activities and the establishment of an academic leadership program led by the University of South Carolina.

The Women's Issues Advisory Committee met with the Provost to discuss this year's programming. This committee hosts a Research Forum and a Leadership Forum, both of which have very good attendance and appealing programs.

The dedication of the French House, USC's first language-based living/learning community, took place on October 4th. The Provost hopes that there will be more such communities formed at USC as these communities are wonderful venues for student enrichment and education.

Provost Becker will meet with the University Committee on Tenure and Promotion on October 19th.

In response to a question from the floor about the budget for the College of Arts and Sciences, the Provost said that no monies were taken away from that college at the University level. Questions about budget allocation at the college level should be addressed to college governance either through the college's dean's office or through department chairs.

5. Report of the Secretary

No report.

6. Unfinished Business

Votes were taken for nominees to committees. Jill Michels and Dan Sabia were elected to serve on the Committee on Libraries. McKinley Blackburn was elected to serve on the Faculty Grievance Committee.

7. New Business

Chair Reeder reminded the Senators that Mr. Eric Hyman, Director of Athletics, will attend the next Faculty Senate meeting to give a brief presentation on his management philosophy for the Athletics Department and to address questions.

8. Announcements

The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be held on November 2, 2005 at 3 p.m. in the Law School Auditorium.

9. Adjournment

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