

**FACULTY SENATE MEETING**  
**March 1, 2006**

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

Chair Gene Reeder called the meeting to order and asked for corrections to the minutes of the February 1, 2006 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**

On behalf of the Senate Steering Committee, Professor Kane (School of Medicine Library) presented a slate of nominees for committee vacancies [see Attachment 1, p. 8]. The floor was opened for additional nominations to committees.

**b. Committee on Curricula and Courses, Professor Matthew Miller, Acting Chair**

Professor Miller (Mathematics) presented changes in curriculum and/or courses within the following colleges: College of Arts and Sciences, Moore School of Business, College of Hospitality, Retail, and Sport Management, the College of Mass Communications and Information Studies, and the South Carolina Honors College [see Attachment 1, pp. 9-31]. All motions from the committee carried.

**c. Faculty Budget Committee, Professor John McDermott, Chair**

Professor McDermott (Moore School of Business) distributed copies of "A Guide to the Budget of the University of South Carolina," a document compiled by the Faculty Budget Committee. He then went through the document, summarizing each section and highlighting points of interest.

Chair Reeder thanked Professor McDermott and his committee for the work they put into the production of the document.

**4. Reports of Officers**

**President Andrew Sorensen**

President Sorensen took a moment to introduce Brad Choate, the University's new Vice President for University Advancement. Before joining USC, Choate was president and chief executive officer of the Minnesota Medical Foundation. The President is delighted to have Choate leading the new Office of University Advancement, which will be responsible for such programs as public relations, the Alumni Association, publications, development, and advancement administration.

In an effort to reveal USC's "light under a bushel" to the national and international community, President Sorensen has been working to bring dignitaries and other prominent public figures to

campus so that they might begin to recognize the excellence of our University and its faculty. Recently, Dr. Arden Bement, Director of the National Science Foundation, visited USC for nearly two days, during which time he attended a number of presentations by USC's scientists and graduate students. Dr. Bement was impressed with the innovative and exciting work of the faculty. Dr. Sorensen conveyed his hopes for increased funding from the NSF for USC projects.

The United States Surgeon General also visited our campus recently and was duly impressed with USC's public health and preventive medicine activities.

The President announced a day-long summit, to be hosted by USC on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, for several hundred individuals involved in discussions on biosecurity and the threat of an avian influenza (H5N1) epidemic. The Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services will be in attendance, as will Dr. Julie Gerberding, the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta.

Installation of the new Student Government officers will be held at Rutledge Chapel at 5 p.m. on this date. The President invited the faculty to attend that ceremony.

President Sorensen thanked Professor McDermott for his excellent work with the Faculty Budget Committee and, in particular, for the budget guide. The President is pleased that his desire to make the budgeting process transparent has been realized through the committee's explanatory document. He encouraged the pursuit of a similar transparency regarding the respective budgets of each dean's office within the University.

The President mentioned two recent grants awarded to USC: a \$1 million from Wachovia Foundation to help undergraduate African-Americans prepare for a career in banking; and \$800,000 from the W. M. Keck Foundation for the creation of a lab to develop new technologies in tissue engineering, drug delivery, vaccine manufacturing, and other biomedical applications.

The Innovista continues to develop. One of the most unusual experiences of President Sorensen's life was the chance to push the button to implode the old Plaza Hotel on February 5<sup>th</sup>. A supporter of the School of Public Health paid \$1300 for the privilege of joining the President in detonating the implosion.

Construction on the Horizon Center, to be located on what has been known as the "Hardee's block," will begin next month. A group of "brokers" whose job it will be to recruit high tech firms to the Center are currently visiting Columbia. The President hopes to convey the excitement of a project involving the cooperation of the University, state government, and business leaders.

**Vice President Harris Pastides** (Research and Health Sciences) reported that the Pharmacy dean search continues. Dean Donna Richter, Chair of the search committee, has announced that there are three very good candidates. Telephone interviews are being conducted, and it is expected that candidates will be brought to campus for formal interviews in the next several weeks.

The search committee for the dean of the School of Medicine is in the process of being formed. The School of Medicine Faculty has provided a list of elected search committee members, and

the remaining search committee slots will be filled by Dr. Pastides to ensure community representation and diversity in disciplinary background. It is likely that a professional search firm will be hired to help with the process of replacing Dean Larry Faulkner.

### **Provost Mark Becker**

Provost Becker reported that he is in the process of reviewing the report from the search committee for the dean of the College of Engineering. He expects there to also be a report within the next week from the search committee for the dean of the School of Law. The Provost reminded the faculty that all are welcome to meet with dean candidates as they are brought to campus. Feedback is solicited from the faculty through evaluation forms that are carefully collected and reviewed by the Provost. All input regarding prospective deans is welcome and considered very seriously.

The Provost shared information about the process of getting new programs approved by the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education. This is the last step for approval of a new program. The Commission scrutinizes each proposed program to avoid duplication of graduate or undergraduate programs within the state. If a program duplicates an existing one, a justification must be made regarding its necessity. The Provost encourages faculty to be thorough in investigating programs at other state institutions before proposing new programs at USC.

Provost Becker mentioned that he has received questions about the software program used for student enrollment. Questions such as these should be addressed to Barbara Blaney at the Office of the University Registrar. The One Carolina Project will eventually result in a new system designed from the ground up, but meanwhile all issues related to functionality of the current system should be directed to the Registrar's office.

The Provost announced that USC's podcasting site (<http://podcast.sc.edu/>) is now live. Podcasting is part of the new reality of higher education, and this development will enable the University to make academic lectures available to the community. USC is in the queue to have its channel available via the Apple iTunes store, where podcasts are available from various institutions at no charge. The Provost thanked CIO Bill Hogue, Rafael Alvarado (Director, Center for Teaching Excellence), Susan Bridwell, and others for bringing this feature up to speed so efficiently.

The Provost thanked Professor McDermott and the Faculty Budget Committee for their report. He reminded the faculty that it is important to note that there does not exist a right answer to a budget model. Stability and predictability are critical, and models and equations should not be changed from year to year. However, slight modifications may be made every five years or so to account for unintended consequences. The University Budget Policy Committee (whose membership includes Dr. Becker, Dr. Pastides, Dr. Reeder, Dr. McDermott, CFO Rick Kelly, and two deans) welcomes the report from the Faculty Budget Committee.

Provost Becker recently attended a joint meeting with the Faculty Advisory Committee and the Chairs of the University Committee on Tenure and Promotions (Dr. Libba Patterson) and the Faculty Grievance Committee (Dr. Bob Best). The object of the meeting was to discuss the tenure and promotion process and the problems that have routinely arisen due to the

heterogeneity of processes among the units. In order that tenure and promotion candidates not be penalized for this heterogeneity, these issues need to be carefully discussed and resolutions made, perhaps via a specially appointed Faculty Senate committee.

In response to a question from the audience, the Provost said that the School of the Environment will be organizationally located within the College of Arts and Sciences. A transition committee has been formed and will be chaired by Professor Thomas Chandler (School of Public Health).

## **5. Report of the Chair**

Chair Reeder reported that he attended the Regional Campuses Faculty Senate meeting held on February 17<sup>th</sup> in Columbia.

He also announced that a committee will be formed in the near future to examine standardization issues regarding tenure and promotion at the unit level. The committee will be comprised of members of the UCTP, the Grievance Committee, a representative from the Provost's Office, and two members from the faculty at large.

## **6. Unfinished Business**

After a period of discussion regarding intellectual property issues at the University, Professor Alvin Fox (Medicine) made a motion to create an Ad Hoc Committee to evaluate the structure, process and outcomes of the current Intellectual Property Committee and its relationship to the Intellectual Property Office. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

There were no additional nominations for committee vacancies. The nominations were closed and a vote was taken. All persons on the list of committee nominees were elected by the Senate.

## **7. New Business**

There was no new business.

## **8. Announcements**

The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be held on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2006, directly following the General Faculty meeting (scheduled for 2 p.m.) in the Law School Auditorium.

## **9. Adjournment**

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