

FACULTY SENATE MEETING

June 21, 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 April 26, 2006 meeting. There were no corrections and the minutes were approved as written.

3. Reports of Committees

a. Committee on Curricula and Courses, Professor Matthew Miller, Chair-Elect:

Professor Matthew Miller (Mathematics) presented changes in curriculum and/or courses within the following: College of Arts and Sciences, Moore School of Business, and College of Engineering and Information Technology [see Attachment 1, pp. 8-28]. Some corrections were made: under Department of Theatre and Dance (p. 15), all PEDU courses in brackets were struck (these courses should not be listed as “deletions”). The section entitled “Bachelor of Arts in Dance: Concentration in Dance Education” (pp. 17 – 23) was withdrawn. Item 3, The College of Education, was also withdrawn. All motions from the committee carried.

4. Reports of Officers

President Andrew Sorensen

President Andrew Sorensen announced to the Senate that this year’s budget is by far the best that the University has had since he was elected President. The General Assembly was supportive of USC’s proposals and funded the following:

- 3% raise, on average, for all faculty and staff (General Assembly will fund 2% and USC will add 1%)
- \$4 million in recurring monies for the Faculty Excellence Initiative (in which 600 new faculty will be recruited over a six-year period)
- \$1.5 million in one-time monies for the Congaree Project (research dedicated to solving pollution issues in the Saluda, Broad, and Congaree Rivers) plus \$.5 million per year on a recurring basis
- \$1 million for nanotechnology support
- \$1 million for fuel cell research
- One-time monies for parity in funding for six USC institutions (other than the Columbia campus) to rectify funding problems resulting from a formula established years ago that essentially penalizes institutions with decreasing enrollment
- \$1 million in recurring monies for USC Upstate to dramatically expand its offerings in Greenville

The legislature did not support the Governor's proposed tuition cap. There will be a 6.75 percent tuition increase to compensate for the gap created by increasing operation costs and decreasing legislative support. The President was pleased that tuition increase will be within the single-digit range just as he had promised the legislature.

The President recognized the following members of the House and Senate leadership for their support: Bobby Harrell, Speaker of the House of Representatives (an avid Gamecock fan); Daniel Cooper, Chair of the House Ways and Means Committee (an avid Clemson fan); Senator Hugh Leatherman, Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee; Senator John Land; and Senator C. Bradley Hutto.

President Sorensen gave updates on other matters:

- Innovista construction is moving along
- The School of Public Health will soon be open
- USC students continue to achieve national recognition and are doing extraordinarily well in their academics
- Summer camps at USC are being held; the President thanked the faculty for working with those bright young students and making the programs successful
- Dean Paul Willis helped raise \$18 million for expansion of the Thomas Cooper Library
- Marina Lomazov, Assistant Professor of Piano, hosted a summer camp for gifted child pianists. The President invited the group to his home for a dinner and was delighted by the recital performed by several of the pianists.
- Professor Joseph Quattro, Department of Biological Sciences, has discovered a new, genetically distinct hammerhead shark
- Walter F. "Jack" Pratt will assume his post as Dean of the School of Law on July 1st
- Bruce Coull will retire as Dean of the School of the Environment on June 30th. The School will move into the College of Arts and Sciences and will still be called the School of the Environment.
- A new Tobacco Use Policy has been developed and will go into effect on August 1st. (For details, visit: <http://www.sc.edu/healthycarolina/>).

Associate Provost Ted Moore

Associate Provost Ted Moore presented a short description of some changes taking place in the Office of the Provost. The search process has begun for the following three newly created positions:

- Vice Provost for Faculty Development: a full-time senior administrator who will be in charge of coordinating anything related to the faculty (tenure, promotion, hiring, sabbaticals, post-tenure review, endowed chairs, etc.)
- Ombudsperson: a part-time faculty position responsible for improving communication between the faculty and the administration. This will be an

- internal search and will require someone with unimpeachable integrity and who is well familiar with the culture and the soul of the University.
- Assistant Provost for Academic Policy: responsible for managing academic policies, procedures, and space planning

5. Report of Chair

Chair Reeder announced that changes to the *Faculty Manual* brought forth via the Faculty Advisory Committee have been approved by the Board of Trustees Academic Affairs Committee and will continue on to the full Board. Upon approval of the Board, the changes will become part of the *Faculty Manual* (visit the Faculty Senate website at <http://www.sc.edu/faculty/manual.shtml> for more information).

On behalf of the Faculty Senate, Dr. Reeder thanked the Office of the Provost for pursuing the development of an Ombudsperson position. The person filling this role will serve a very vital function within the University.

The Faculty Senate Steering Committee will be recruiting people in the fall to fill vacant slots on faculty committees. Dr. Reeder encouraged self-nominations or the nomination of colleagues for these committee positions.

6. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

7. New Business

There was no new business.

8. Announcements

Chair Reeder informed the Senate that he has invited some key people to speak at future Senate meetings. Dr. Bill Hogue, Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer, will speak on the progress of One Carolina and the integration of software and computing needs of the University. Dennis Pruitt, Vice President of Student Affairs, will give an overview of the Healthy Carolina initiative.

The next meeting will be held on September 6, 2006 at approximately 3 p.m. (immediately following the General Faculty Meeting) in the Law School Auditorium.

9. Adjournment.

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