

**FACULTY SENATE MEETING**  
**December 5, 2007**

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

Chair Robert Best called the meeting to order and asked for corrections to the minutes of the November 7, 2007 meeting. There were no corrections, and the minutes were approved as written.

**3. Reports of Committees**

Chair Best urged everyone to consider volunteering for a Faculty Committee. The volunteer forms have been mailed and will also be distributed via email.

**a. Committee on Curricula and Courses, Professor Karen Heid, Acting Chair**

Professor Heid (Art) presented changes in curriculum and/or courses within: College of Arts and Sciences, College of Education, and College of Engineering and Computing [see Attachment 1, pp. 6 – 15]. All motions carried.

**b. Faculty Advisory Committee, Professor Constance Schulz, Chair**

Professor Schulz (History) presented proposed *Faculty Manual* changes and moved for a vote of approval from the Senate to present the changes at the next General Faculty meeting [see Attachment 3, pp. 18-29]. All changes to the *Faculty Manual* need to be voted upon by the entire faculty. The Senate voted in favor of the motion.

**c. Faculty Welfare Committee, Professor Beth Bilderback, Chair**

Professor Bilderback (Libraries) announced that the Roth 401K and 403B are now available. Seminars will be offered throughout December and January. Also, there are no more flu shots available. Professor Bilderback asked for continued support of the efforts of the Faculty Welfare Committee through further donations to the Faculty Enrichment Fund.

**4. Reports of Officers**

**President Andrew Sorensen**

President Sorensen gave an overview of upcoming events in Newberry County. The events will commemorate the first commencement ceremony of the “South Carolina College” that took place in December of 1807.

Increasing enrollment of South Carolinians across all USC campuses is an indication that the University’s mandate to be accessible to all South Carolina citizens is well on track. At the same time, the University is being more selective as indicated by rising grade point

averages and test scores of incoming freshmen. Additional steps being taken to increase accessibility include:

- The admission of first-time freshmen in January (450 students will begin this January).
- The development of a bridge program that will facilitate a student's transfer from South Carolina's technical colleges to USC.
- The establishment of the Gamecock Guarantee Program, which covers 100% tuition and technology fees for four years for those full-time students whose family income qualifies at the Federal Poverty level.

The President also discussed the following:

- Initial meetings with the state legislature seem to indicate that reception of USC's proposed budget is favorable.
- Since lottery ticket sales have gone down, President Sorensen is concerned about USC's dependence upon the lottery. He will share his concern with the legislature.
- All efforts are being made to ensure that new construction is energy-efficient and environment-friendly.
- A Salary Equity Study conducted by the Faculty Salary Equity Committee resulted in salary equity adjustments for 127 females and 53 males.

President Sorensen wished everyone a very happy holiday.

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

Chair Best said that in the new year, the Senate and general faculty will begin to look at significant changes to the *Faculty Manual*.

## **6. Unfinished and New Business**

There was no unfinished or new business.

## **7. Announcements**

The next Faculty Senate meeting is scheduled for February 6, 2008 at 3:00 pm in the Law School Auditorium.

## **8. Adjournment.**

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