

# **FACULTY SENATE MEETING**

**December 5, 2018**

## **1. Call to Order**

CHAIR MARCO VALTORTA (Computer Science & Engineering) – called the meeting to order.

## **2. Corrections to and Approval of Minutes**

CHAIR VALTORTA called for corrections to the minutes of the Special Called meeting, October 26th and the regular meeting of November 7th. There were none and the minutes were approved as submitted.

## **3. Report of Officers**

PRESIDENT HARRIS PASTIDES – announced he would provide a eulogy for Bob McNair. He and Janice McNair are the namesakes to the McNair Scholars Program which helped increase the breath of the honors college applicants from around the country. He was the student body president here in 1958. He graduated in 1958. He came from North Carolina and when he decided to do something major for the university he gave a gift that would be restricted to out-of-state students, so the McNair scholars who come to USC, between 20 - 25 a year, have fully paid tuition and fees but also their enrichment activities with respect to technology and study abroad opportunities. USC has about 410 McNair scholars alumni and then the present group of McNair scholars in the Honors College.

Pastides looked up Bob McNair's commencement speech to USC graduates, given before Pastides was president and he mentioned that he asked then Dr. Palms what he should talk about and Dr. Palms said he should talk about 15 minutes. His speech was called Spiral Notebook and he said that a lot of emphasis on success is attributed to your IQ, your innovation, your creativity, but not nearly enough to your organization, to your follow through and to your workman-like attitude about things. And he told students that he carried a notebook. Why a spiral notebook? One notebook chronologically write down everything you tell people you'll do, refer to it regularly, then fill them up, file them away. So that was a pretty good talk by a wonderful and generous philanthropist.

The legislative season will begin soon and a special Senate committee has been convened to begin deliberating about the HEO, the Higher Education Opportunity Act and there will be another hearing on December 12<sup>th</sup>. It's co-sponsored by a Democrat senator and a Republican senator. They've identified increases in state revenue from online retail sales as the mechanism to provide a new stream of funding to higher ed. That would have been about 125 million dollars last year. That is bigger than the entire University of South Carolina budget. That of course would be divided up between all the public universities in the state. He has some real hope this year that they will have not only a meaningful dialogue about what the value of public higher education is within the state of South Carolina but what it's worth and where the money would come from.

Pastides was pleased to participate in a ribbon cutting at USC Beaufort campus, the newest campus on Hilton Head Island. It will be a 2-year program, a junior and senior program for hospitality students from USC Beaufort who would get great internships and experiences working on one of the truly global destinations within South Carolina, Hilton Head Island. That will be the first new USC location since the medical school opened in Greenville in 2012.

The Capstone building was lit garnet last month because USC received a global number one ranking in sport science. That is an amalgamation of exercise science, sport management and athletic training.

The Booker T. Washington auditorium was a building that was a sore point between the university and the community for many years. This was the African-American high school at a time when high school was segregated in Columbia, South Carolina. It has a great and important legacy within the community but when it was closed the buildings that constitute Booker T. were kind of appropriated by USC right across from the Blatt PE. Center on Wheat Street and that left a bad taste for many African-Americans in the community. The building has been renovated with the help of Reverend Solomon Jackson into the building it is today but it was just designated as now being on the National Register of Historic Places.

Donna Chen in the Chemistry Department was recently announced as an AAAS Fellow for her distinguished contributions in the field of surface science and heterogeneous catalysts.

PROVOST JOAN GABEL – announced internal grants are in process now with notifications coming in the spring. Anyone with questions can contact Cheryl Addy.

This is the 2nd time USC is running the winter session. It started as a pilot through the On Your Time Office for an online 3 week session. There were seven sessions in the pilot that all filled and this year there are 14 that have all filled.

An update on University 101. The first-year reading experience and the USC Creativity and Initiative partnered earlier this fall to run the “A Beautiful Question” contest. The winning team was a group of students from the University 101 class taught by Lauren Puffenbarger who's from the Darla Moore school. The students proposed a question concerning mental health services for undergraduate students and as their prize, the 5 students along with their instructors got to attend the President's pre-game tailgate and take pictures and then go on the field for pre-game.

She reminded faculty to RSVP for graduation, and that the arena has a clear bag policy. The Doctoral Hooding ceremony is Monday December 17th at 9:30; baccalaureate, master's and professional commencement, Monday December 17th at 2:30. Doctoral Hooding is in Coker. Baccalaureate, master's and professional is in Colonial Life.

CHAIR VALTORTA – introduced the invited guest, Leah Moody, Chair of the Academic Affairs and Faculty Liaison Committee of the Board of Trustees. Moody is a native of Rock Hill, South Carolina. She earned a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Hampton University and juris Doctorate degree from the University of South Carolina School of Law. She was a staff attorney to the Senate Judiciary Committee of the South Carolina Senate and then Deputy Legal Counsel for Governor James Hodges. In July 2002 she entered private practice in Rock Hill and in 2004 she opened her own firm.

So she is a member of the Board of Trustees representing the 16th Judicial Circuit which includes Rock Hill. She's been a member since 2009. Her current term expires in 2020 and she is chairing the committee that deals most specifically with the faculty of the University of South Carolina, the Academic Affairs and Faculty Liaison committee.

And she also is a member of the Buildings and Ground Committee, the Students and Systems Affairs Committee and the Presidential Candidate Search Committee, where she was just appointed the Diversity Advocate.

#### **4. Invited Guests**

GUEST LEAH MOODY (Board of Trustees) – commented that her mother was a college professor at Winthrop University.

She thanked the Faculty Senate for inviting her. As the Chair of Academic Affairs, she has the pleasure of looking out for faculty as well as dealing with issues that affect the students. She has had a good experience of seeing how other universities interact with their faculty and what they're doing on their campuses and just kind of generally how they run their schools from the time that she was appointed to the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education. She agreed to serve for 2 years but ended up doing it for about 5 years so she got a good visual of what goes on, on college campuses. As well as being the daughter of a college professor, tenured professor at Winthrop University, she understands some of the issues that faculty may have with different things that are coming down from the Board. The Board is very supportive of the faculty as an integral part of the university. So if faculty have questions she's someone they can call. She may not get right back to them just because she may be in court.

She is serving on the search committee and that process is under way. Most questions about the process will be answered by committee chair Hugh Mobley. He's out of Lancaster. He's a really approachable guy if faculty have questions or faculty can ask Moody and she will take it to the committee.

Diversity has been something that she's concerned about. Not just racial diversity, but gender as well, all the different factors that make up diversity and how valuable it is to the campus and how it adds to the students' experience.

So if there are any questions for her or concerns or just want to talk when she's here in Columbia, she can schedule a time to meet with faculty, or concerns can be sent to her through Chair Valtorta.

GUEST DR. JIM AUGUSTINE (University Ombudsmen) – has been the University Ombudsman now for 12 years. He discussed the Report of the University Ombudsman during the past year. There is a longer report related to the activities for the past year on the university website.

Over 12 years, he's talked to and tried to help approximately 600 faculty members, about 50 a year. He did a survey of Carnegie One institutions and looked at Ombuds reports from them and the average for those institutions was about 54 faculty per year.

His office is a confidential, neutral, informal, and independent resource. Not an office of notice or mandated reporters. He deals with all sorts of faculty questions, concerns, issues and inquiries whatever they might be. Try to listen, try to clarify issues, look at what possible options there might be and to try to provide information to faculty.

The International Ombuds Association whose umbrella he works under has about 9 categories to which they assign the concerns that faculty may have. And the reporting over these last 12 years has followed those particular reporting categories that IOA has proposed and so there are things such Evaluative Relationships; Career Progression and Development; Peer and Colleague Relationships; Legal Regulatory, Financial and Compliance; Compensation and Benefits; Values, Ethics and Standards; Services/Administrative issues; Safety, Health and Physical Environment and Organizational, Strategic and Mission Related.

So there are a whole host of concerns that faculty can come to see the Ombuds about and would be those categories that he uses for his yearly evaluation. The most common reason for faculty to come see him are Evaluative Relationships, obviously between someone in authority and the faculty member. And the second largest group would be Career Progression and Development opportunities or lack of opportunities, Promotion and Tenure. Those sorts of things.

He encouraged faculty to call him. His cell phone number is listed on the annual report and it is on the Ombud's website [www.sc.edu/ombuds](http://www.sc.edu/ombuds). They've tried various kind of phone services but it turns out that using a cell phone is probably the easiest and he would recommend perhaps not emailing him information. If a faculty member wants him to contact them he will but e-mails are subject to others having the opportunity to see them at some future time and it's probably not a good idea to put conflicts or concerns in emails to him in case those e-mails become the subject of others looking at them.

His office seeks to be fair, to be objective, to be impartial and to be helpful. This is one of those sort of under the radar opportunities that are available to faculty.

## **5. Reports of Faculty Committees**

### **a. Senate Steering Committee**

SECRETARY ELIZABETH WEST (University Libraries) – announced all vacancies but one have been filled. She present the names of nominees in 2 groups. The 1st group of names are all filling in vacancies that end in Aug 2019. Since these vacancies are for less than a year the Senate Steering Committee appoints people to these vacancies and a vote is not necessary.

For Faculty Advisory: Mark Cooper (English), Gina Crosby-Quinatona (Public Health). Faculty Grievance: Robert Mullen (Engineering and Computing). Tenure Review Board: Bill Sudduth (Libraries).

The next set of names are being presented for vote in the Senate as these are vacancies that still have more than one year left.

For Faculty Advisory with the term ending in August 2020: Nicholas Vazsonyi (Languages, Literatures and Cultures). Faculty Grievance both terms ending in 2020: Duncan Buell (Engineering and Computing) and Matthew Boylan (Mathematics). Athletics Advisory also ending in 2020: Tom Regan (HRSM).

**b. Committee on Curricula and Courses, Professor John Gerdes, Chair.**

PROFESSOR JOHN GERDES (Integrated Information Technology) – brought forth 264 proposals. The report listed 265. There is one course that was listed on the proposal, EMCH 361 which is going to be tabled. And there was also one additional program proposal that was inadvertently left off it. Those two are going to be considered in February. Today, there's 152 in Arts and Sciences; 12 in Business; 5 in Education. There had been listed 35 but there's only 34 Engineering and Computing; 12 in Hospitality, Retail and Sports Management; 11 in Information and Communications; 28 in Music; 2 in Nursing; 3 in the Palmetto programs; 1 in Pharmacy; 1 in Public Health and 3 in Social Work.

CHAIR VALTORTA – Clarified that EMCH 361 is the course proposed in the document that has been tabled.

PROFESSOR JOHN LAVIGNE (Chemistry and Biochemistry) – asked for clarification on EMCH 371 which is also listed. The document that was sent out with the minutes here suggests removing CHEM 112 and CHEM 112L as a prereq for that course as it is no longer required for BS and ME. And according to the 2018 -2019 bulletin, 111 and 112 Chemistry are both still required for Mechanical Engineering degree so he was curious what the conflict was there, how that should be interpreted.

ASSOCIATE DEAN JED LYONS (College of Engineering and Computing) – replied they would consider tabling that proposal to be considered in the February meeting as well.

There was a motion and a second to table the proposal for EMCH 371. It was approved.

There was no further discussion and the amended proposal was approved.

PROFESSOR GERDES – thanked his committee members. This was a lot of work to get through these and he thinks the whole university is thankful for their efforts because there was a lot of work to get these courses all through.

Gerdes discussed another proposal. Currently, if there's any sort of change, the committee has to go through the change process, go through apps, and they often get a lot of changes that have to be made that are in the course description. Typically, in prior systems the prereqs were incorporated into the course description and the bulletin. If they were co-reqs, they were listed. If they were Carolina Core, they were listed. The problem is those don't get automatically updated and it's really just administratively, if they have to go through and add apps, go through apps to get that change it adds a lot of extra work.

What the committee is proposing is to allow the registrar to remove the content that shows up in other fields such as pre-reqs, co-reqs, Carolina Core, etc., from the bulletin description without requiring curriculum change and Curriculum and Course Committee review. So they'd like to have the Registrar go in there and just clean out that description.

There was no discussion and the proposal was approved.

PROFESSOR GERDES – stated there was a recommendation for Graduation with Leadership Distinction (GLD). That committee had reviewed courses to be included. The C&C committee also reviewed all of those courses. These are in addition to the 263. There are another 81 courses that were recommended to be approved for GLD inclusion. They are 28 by Arts and Sciences; 18 in Business; 4 in Education; 2 in Hospitality, Retail and Sport Management; 19 in Information and Communication; 1 in Nursing; 1 Palmetto College and 8 in Public Health.

There was no discussion and the motion was approved.

### **c. Committee on Instructional Development**

PROFESSOR MICHAEL WEISENBERG (University Libraries) – The Instructional Development Committee brought forward 4 courses for distributive learning: 1 from the College of Arts and Sciences; 2 from the Darla Moore School of Business; and 1 from the College of Hospitality, Retail and Sports Management.

There was no discussion and the motion was approved.

## **6. Report of the Chair**

CHAIR VALTORTA – thanked Provost Gabel for helping set up a meeting of concerned Mathematics faculty with Jim Demarest, Associate VP for Facilities Services and Derek Gruner the University Architect. This had to do with response to emergencies in specific buildings following the well-known incident in the LeConte building that caused it to be closed for about 2 days.

As a result of this meeting, he became aware of a new building specific protocol for informing faculty and staff in case of building closures that is being finalized. He was hoping to have it for the Senate today but it didn't quite make it in time according to the Provost's office.

Valtorta spoke on the Presidential Candidate Search Committee. They met on November 8<sup>th</sup>, Thursday and November 30<sup>th</sup>, Friday. The November 8<sup>th</sup> meeting was completely public, open. There was no executive session. There were cameras there.

The meeting on November 30<sup>th</sup> was announced as being dedicated to discussion on search firms.

He reported that a special committee is advancing its search and is expected to enlist an executive search firm in the process following a conference call on Friday December 7<sup>th</sup>. Search firms are often employed by colleges and universities to assist in identifying top presidential candidates from across the country. During its last meeting on November 30<sup>th</sup> the committee interviewed 7 executive search firms. The chosen firm would be reimbursed for its work by the University Foundations. Also on November 30<sup>th</sup>, Search Chairman Hubert Mobley appointed Trustee and committee member, Leah Moody to serve as its affirmative action advocate helping to ensure a diverse pool of candidates are considered for the position.

## **7. Unfinished Business**

SECRETARY WEST – Asked if there were nominations from the floor. There were none. The slate of nominees was approved. The last vacancy is on the Professional Conduct Committee. Volunteer Committee Forms have gone out, and West encouraged faculty to volunteer and to encourage their colleagues to volunteer.

## **8. New Business**

There was no new business.

## **9. For the Good of the Order**

There was nothing for the good of the order.

## **10. Adjournment**



A motion to adjourn was seconded and passed. The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be Wednesday, February 6th 2019, 3pm, in Gambrell 153.